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AGAWAM Advertiser-News

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Volume XVIII Number 44

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

November 2, 1995

Police Bike Patrol Gets Rave Review From Townsfolk

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

From the shopping center on Walnut Street to the elderly housing development near Feeding Hills Center, they're a welcome sight to business owners and residents, especially the children.

After several months on the beat, the Agawam Police Department's mountain bike patrol is getting rave reviews from just about everyone, except those people who might not appreciate having a silent, mobile, and fast police presence able to appear where officers aren't usually expected.

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said reaction from the public has all been positive since the three man team mounted-up over the summer.

All volunteers, the bike patrol consists of patrolmen Keith Bopko, Brian Connor, Steven Grasso and alternate Richard Riccio.

Going out on the bike patrol's first night to observe how the program was being received, Johnson said, "It was the most excited I've ever seen anyone doing their job. The bike patrol puts the officer one-on-one and face-to-face with the citizenry."

Strengthening Community Ties

Police Chief Robert Campbell said the bike patrol has been successful in strengthening the ties between the community and the Police Department, which is essential for community policing to be effective.

Campbell said there was a marked reduction in the number of car thefts and break-ins over the run of The Big E with the bike patrol concentrating on the areas where fairgoers park their cars.

"The bikes are a real ice-breaker for us," Campbell said, "especially with the kids now that mountain bikes are so much in vogue."

Bopko said the youngsters enjoyed comparing bikes with the officers and they're already learning that if they're "caught" practicing bike safety and wearing a helmet, they'll receive a certificate for free ice cream at Stan's Soft Serve or Peter-Jons Gourmet Ice Cream Shop.

Campbell said the mountain bikes and equipment for the patrolmen were purchased with donations from business owners. The business people were impressed with the success of the foot patrol beat instituted at the Agawam Shopping Center last year and wanted to assist in expanding the community policing effort.

Campbell credits Dave Axler, owner of Axler's Bike Shop, with helping the department save about a third of the cost of purchasing the bikes. "The program wouldn't be as successful without the assistance of Axler's," Campbell said.

The bikes are 21 speed All Terrains and are specially equipped for the police with lights, sirens, radios, and rock shox suspension to absorb the impact of bumps, Axler said.

"We felt being a local shop, we had more to offer," Axler said. "The officers can drop in for tips on properly maintaining their equipment."

SEE BIKE PATROL - Page 2...



AGAWAM POLICE OFFICER KEITH BOPKO (left) is one of the Police Department's mountain bike patrolmen. Bopko is pictured with David Axler, proprietor of Axler's Bike Shop of Agawam (who sold the bikes to the town at a discounted price), Police Chief Robert Campbell, and Mayor Christopher C. Johnson. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Fate Of Tuckahoe Turf Farm To Be Decided By Judge Soon

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The two-year legal battle between the town and a local developer over ownership of the 292-acre Tuckahoe Turf Farm may reach a conclusion later this month.

In a memo to Town Council, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said a trial was held last week in Hampden Superior Court on the third and sole remaining count of the lawsuit, an alleged civil rights violation committed by the town against the Tuckahoe Development Corporation. The corporation is headed by the daughter of prominent local developer Ralph DePalma.

Johnson said the judge's decision is expected within 30 days.

In the memo, Johnson reminded the Council that the town was successful in getting the first (First Refusal Option) and second (Eminent Domain Taking) counts of the lawsuit thrown out of court in May 1994.

In August 1994, the town received its first setback in the legal battle over the purchase of the turf farm when a Superior Court judge refused to grant a summary judgement in the civil rights case filed against the town by the Tuckahoe Development Corporation.

On August 30, 1994, Judge Francis X. Spina also denied the town's request for the removal of a legal notice recorded against the deed signifi-

ing a suit is pending against a property which prevents the town from recouping \$500,000 of the \$1.1 million purchase price by selling the development rights to the parcel to the state.

Town's Action Challenged

The allegation of a civil rights violation is the last of three counts filed against the town in June 1993. It challenged the town's action in taking the 292-acre parcel by eminent domain and then purchasing it for \$1.1 million under the right of first refusal (on agricultural land getting a tax exemption) under State Law Chapter 61A.

Under Chapter 61A, landowners can get a tax break on land being used for agriculture if they give the town the right of first refusal to make a matching offer should the land be sold for a purpose other than agricultural.

Regardless of the outcome of the civil rights case, DePalma has said he is optimistic that his claim to the property would be upheld on appeal.

DePalma insisted the town acted improperly in taking the land by eminent domain without first having the property appraised to determine fair market value.

The property had been for sale for two years before DePalma negotiated a bargain price of \$1.1 million with the former owners.

SEE TUCKAHOE TURF - Page 2...

Town To Crack Down On Owners Allowing Dogs To Be Messy

In recent months, there have been numerous complaints by residents of Agawam regarding dogs being walked in neighborhoods and being allowed to defecate on the sidewalks and in some cases, residents' lawns, according to Agawam Animal Control Officer Robert F. Burke.

On March 9, 1992, the City Council passed an ordinance amendment to Chapter 96, Section 96-8 that makes it against the law to allow a dog to defecate off its owner's property without the owner picking it up and disposing of it in a sanitary manner.

The fines for not obeying this ordinance range from \$25 to \$300.

According to Ordinance Amendment TOR 92-5, no person owning, harboring, keeping, or in charge of any dog shall cause, or allow such dog to soil, defile, defecate on or commit any nuisance on any common thoroughfare, sidewalk, passageway, public way, path, play area, park or any place where people congregate or walk or upon any private property without the permission of the owner of said property, and the following conditions shall apply:

1. The person who controls such dog within those areas described above shall immediately remove all feces deposited by such dog.

2. The feces removed from the aforementioned designated area shall be disposed of by the person owning, harboring, keeping or in charge of such dog by flushing same down a Sanitary Sewer System or by use of a chemical container causing disintegration. In the event that a chemical container is used, ultimate disposal must be made in accordance with Department of Environmental Resources regulations concerning solid waste disposal.

For all the local news, you turn our pages every week
ADVERTISER NEWS

BIKE PATROL - from Page 1...

Bopko Did The Department Proud

Last month, Bopko "did the department proud" with his performance in the Yankee Candle Law Enforcement Mountain Bike Race in South Deerfield, according to Campbell.

Using a standard, 30-pound unmodified, knobby tire bike, Bopko finished 24th in the field of 125 entrants, including the State Police Bike Team riding 10-pound bikes with special frames, wheels, and tires, Campbell said.

Bopko said the race was an excellent opportunity for him to mingle with other bike patrolmen from all over the region and to gather tips that will be useful on the job.

Asked how he had gotten in shape to join the department's first bike patrol, Bopko said he has always paid attention to keeping fit through diet and exercise. Bopko said the added cardiovascular workout of riding in the bike patrol has touched off a sort of "benign circle" of being even more aware of the importance of eating a healthy diet and keeping physically fit.

With the announcement of a \$20,000 community policing grant from the state earlier this month, Campbell is committed to keeping at least one bike on the 4:00 p.m. to midnight shift each day (with the possible addition of a second bike in the

spring).

"The grant money is going into our overtime account to cover vacations or situations when our manpower falls below certain levels. We'll be able to pay for the additional manpower to make sure a bike is always out," Campbell said.

Campbell said he hoped to keep the bikes patrolling up to and possibly after the first snow fall if tire chains make winter patrols possible.

"I'm especially impressed that the men have gone out and purchased some of the cold weather gear themselves," Campbell said.

Getting police officers out of the patrol cars and into the community making one-to-one contacts improves the public's confidence in the police department and helps create a partnership to make Agawam a better, safer place to live, Campbell said.

Corporate sponsors of the bike patrol are:

Langet Auto Body, Christy's Auto Body, Hastie Fence, Joe's Truck Repair, Porth's Automotive, Dean's Transmission, Dave's Soda & Pet Food, Springfield Foreign Auto, Centre Auto Body, Mechanical Plastics, Chester Kasperek, King Ward Transportation, Riverside Park, Agawam Jr. Women's Club, Moren Sign Co., and JR Sweeping Service.

TUCKAHOE TURF FARM - from Page 1...

Although his announced plan to build a golf course on the property was ridiculed at the time, DePalma maintained it was not a joke to him, but a serious plan.

However, if that plan had fallen through, the land may have been worth approximately \$6 million if divided into the 300 residential building lots predicted by town officials.

Town Seeking Preservation Grant

To preserve the land as open space, the town is seeking an Agricultural Preservation Restriction

grant of \$500,000 to ensure the land will be used for farming. The town plans to lease the southern portion of the land to area farmers.

A sports and recreation complex has been proposed for the northern section of the parcel, and it has been mentioned as a possible site for a new elementary school in 15 to 20 years.

Prepared by graduate students at the Conway School of Design, the plan for the athletics complex includes multi-use fields for soccer, football, and volleyball, as well as outdoor basketball courts and a concession stand.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSION

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Liquor Licensing Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 14, 1995, at 7:00 P.M., in the Faolin Peirce Room, Agawam Police Headquarters, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA, on the proposal of Sunday Openings of Package Stores between Thanksgiving and New

Years.

LIQUOR LICENSING COMMISSION
RICHARD A. DILULLO, CHAIRMAN
JOHN J. CHRISCOLA, JR.
ROBERT VANDERHOOF

Published: November 2, 1995

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Rose Caney 732-8738
Century 21 Heritage 786-3111



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They Yanked Your Chain Don't Pull Their Lever!!

These Five People Want You To Exercise Your Right
To Vote ... FOR THEM!!!

These Same Five People **DID NOT** Want You To
Exercise Your Right To VOTE On A Power Plant!!!!

GEORGE BITZAS:

"I can't say no to the Democratic process." Union News 7/1/95.

Councilor Bitzas, you said no five times to a ballot question!

ROBERT DANIE:

"Council Vice President Robert Danie said the ballot question would result in a 'thoroughly confused electorate..." Agawam Advertiser 7/13/95.

Councilor Danie, are we too stupid to make up our own minds?

JAMES TAYLOR:

"We're putting the cart before the horse." Agawam Advertiser 7/13/95.

Wrong, Councilor Taylor. We the residents should be heard from first. You don't want to hear from us at all!

NANCY THOMPSON:

"I think this council has already made its statement and enough is enough." Union News 8/1/95.

Memo to all voters: This means no ballot question, so shut up and deal with it.

CHRIS JOHNSON:

"...said he would do everything in his power to block the question from reaching the ballot." Agawam Advertiser 8/3/95.

Congratulations, Mayor. Your people have been silenced!

To the Candidates: This ad is not a personal attack on you or your stand on the power plant. We object to your political stand, which mirrors that of Berkshire Power, that denies the tax-paying residents of Agawam the right of a ballot question.

Remember citizens of Agawam: You don't have to vote for 11 Councilors. Vote only for those who deserve your votes. Just remember the ones who would **not** let you vote **for or against** a power plant.



We could have never imagined that we would be neighbors of a structure that was built almost five (5) times taller than that allowed by the zoning by-laws. We believed that any zoning deviations would only be granted, as dictated in the by-laws themselves, for uses which were in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning By-Laws.

We recognize that your decision will take a great deal of thought and the application of your knowledge of local and state zoning laws. As citizens, we can only express to you some of our concerns. They are as follows:

A. The proposed project would have a deleterious effect to the immediate area in terms of potential health and safety hazards - these in turn would lower our property values and the quality of life we now enjoy.

B. The proposed project falls far short of meeting the present zoning controls and requires the granting of numerous variances, special permits and special use permit exceptions that seriously damage the integrity of our Zoning By-Laws. **The one permit applied for includes seven distinct zoning deviations, as well as a total of 217 feet of building over the 40 foot limit imposed in the code.** Those deviations are:

1. Bulk Storage of Petroleum (900,000 gallons);
2. Excessive height of the following buildings:
 - a. Generation Building: 27 feet over code;
 - b. Heat Recovery Steam Generator: 20 feet over code;
 - c. Petroleum Storage Tank: 10 feet over code;
 - d. Heat Recovery Steam Generator Stack: 135 feet over code;
 - e. Mechanical Draft Cooling Tower: 15 feet over report;
 - f. Demineralized water tank: 10 feet over code.

We believe that the proposed project with these substantial deviations from the Zoning By-Laws would not be in harmony with the purposes of the by-laws, the Town's Master Plan, or the existing neighborhood. Further, the enormity of these buildings could never conform to current industrial uses and future industrial growth.

The granting of this permit for this project will set an unheard of precedent for future applications seeking relief from zoning requirements similar to those requested in this project. Such a precedent would be the equivalent of the virtual overruling of all zoning in Agawam.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,
Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam
Kenneth Fornl, President

Local Dentist Thanks AAN For Publicity

To The Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you and all of your staff for the publication of our office's press release in your October 12th issue.

Many of our patients have noticed the article and have commented on your paper's continued success in printing articles of local interest. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely yours,
Buddy L. Denison, D.M.D.
General Dentistry
46 Suffield Street
Agawam

Power Plant Opponents Send Concerns To Appeals Board

To The Editor:

Below is a copy of a letter submitted to the Agawam Board of Appeals by the Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam (CCBA).

Attached to the letter when submitted to the Board was a list of names opposing the Berkshire Power Plant. In total, this letter, and another one submitted to the Energy Facilities Siting Board by the CCBA, were signed by hundreds of Agawam citizens.

We believe this letter will begin to educate the public regarding the real hazards the proposed Berkshire Power Plant poses to our Town and our fellow citizens.

For more information, please contact the CCBA via Ken Fornl, Frank Lawlor, Joseph Schlaffer, or Susan Amable. Please look for a notice regarding our next public meeting.

Very truly yours,
Gina-Marie Letellier
Council for CCBA

September 8, 1995

Agawam Board of Appeals
Agawam Town Hall
36 Main Street
Agawam, MA 01001

RE: Berkshire Power Development, Inc. Special Permit Application

Dear Board:

We are addressing this letter to you as some of the many concerned citizens presently living in the shadow of the proposed Berkshire Power Project.

We were aware that Industrially Zoned land was in the neighborhood of the homes we built and bought. However, we also believed, in accordance with the Agawam Zoning By-Laws, that those By-Laws would protect us from any and all uses that would substantially derogate from the intent and spirit of the Zoning By-Laws.

Time For Voters To Fix What's Wrong With Ag. Govt.

To The Editor:

As we approach Election Day (November 7, 1995), we need to look back at Election Day 1993. Some of the same candidates that ran then, are running again. We should ask, "Have these people represented the people who voted for them?" The answer to that question came at the Council meeting of October 2nd.

Month after month, the people asked that a non-binding question on the power plant be put on the ballot, and they even went out to collect 2,300 signatures from voters who wanted to vote. Councilors Caba, Ennis, Simpson, Skolnick, and Suffriti represented the people who had voted for them. Councilors Danie, Taylor, Thompson, Bitzas, and Dziardziel voted against the people who had elected them. They represented Berkshire Power, who didn't want the question on the ballot. The Mayor wasn't there that night and claimed

no involvement in what the Council did. The Mayor knew that the people who elected him wanted the question on the ballot. He has favored Berkshire Power over the people who elected him, from the day he invited them here.

We need a Mayor who cares about this Town and its people. We need someone to see that the children of this Town get the supplies, equipment, and programs that will ensure they get a good education. We need someone who will ask the people of this Town what they want and not tell them what they are going to get.

There is something that the 6th Precinct voters, who vote at the Clark School, should be aware of. This school is located less than a mile from the site of the power plant. Before you vote, ask yourself why would Mayor Johnson and Councilors Danie, Bitzas, Taylor, and Thompson ever agree that a power plant be placed that close to a school?

Whatever is left of this once-rural town is here because of the caring people who fought to keep it. We need to fix what's wrong in our Town government.

Sincerely
Mary Ghedi
Agawam

Quatrone Seeks Your Vote On Election Day

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter to ask for your support in the upcoming election for Agawam City Council. As a lifelong resident of Agawam, I care deeply about our community.

I believe that I have the education and background that can bring a voice of reason to the City Council.

I want to provide the best public services possible for the citizens of our community. This includes supporting economic development, making sure our streets are safe, and providing more community services such as an expansion to the Senior Center.

I hope that I can count on your support November 7th.

Sincerely,
Chris Quatrone
Candidate for Council

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored By
COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

Friday, November 3rd
Nocturnal Adoration Society of
Agawam and West Springfield
At Sacred Heart Church, F. Hills
7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Friday, November 3rd
Storyteller/musician John Porcino
at the Agawam Public Library
(sponsored by Ag. Cultural Council)
7:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 5th
Agawam Lions' Pancake Breakfast
At the Lions' Club on the grounds
of the Big E, West Springfield
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Adults: \$3.50; children, \$2

Monday, November 6th
Author Suzanne Strempek Shea at
the Polish-American Club
7:30 p.m.
For more info, call 786-4057

Tuesday, November 14th
Annual Banquet of Ag. Garden Club
At First Baptist Church, Elm St.



The Agawam Advertiser•News

786-7747

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THE AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS (U.S.P.S.-001-170) is published weekly for \$20.50 per year by PAG Publications, Inc., 14 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030-0263. Second class postage is paid at F.H., MA 01030 & at associated offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Agawam Advertiser News, P.O. Box 263, F.H., MA 01030-0263.



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LETTERS - from Page 4...

Leadership Is Lacking At Agawam Town Hall

To The Editor:

A leader is a person who can bring forth new ideas and innovations which lead to improvements in the town's government and stabilization of taxes. Mayor Johnson has failed to lead.

He has not come up with an original idea in the six years he has held office. He has taken credit for many projects that were put into motion by his predecessors. I'm surprised that he hasn't taken credit for white bread.

This week, he will be front and center claiming credit for the construction of Route 57. He will be driving down the new road waving and mugging for all the cameras with all of his puppets. He wants you to forget that Route 57 was started before he was born.

The entire project has been under the control of the state. Planning, financing, and construction were arranged by the state. The only impact that the Mayor has had on the project has been to delay the opening of the road for a few months so that he could grandstand at a campaign event a few days before the election so as to take credit for this project. Can you believe it?

The fire station on Main Street has been a part of Agawam's capital improvement budget for 10 years, long before Johnson was involved in politics. Bonding limits and other priorities have prevented this and other projects from going forward.

Now that all of us, the taxpayers of Agawam, have paid down much of the bonds, Johnson wants credit for putting us back into debt. Our children and grandchildren will be paying off this palace for many years to come. What a legacy to leave. If he had planned properly, we could have addressed many of these town needs six years ago.

Johnson is the "eminent domain mayor" and thinks nothing of putting people out of business. He decided to take the George Webster property for this fire house instead of the vacant and available neighboring land. Mr. Webster had provided a valuable service to this community for more than 50 years, but Johnson took his property and ignored other options.

Tuckahoe Farm land was another example of Johnson's ill-conceived property grab. He seems to want to become a real estate tycoon. The property was taken, again, by eminent domain, but the eventual transaction may be tied up in court for many years. This legal snafu will result in the loss of important tax dollars, unnecessary legal fees, and annual interest expenses of approximately \$40,000 per year until the matter is settled.

Johnson brags about the purchase but hides the consequences of his folly from the public. If the town is unsuccessful in these legal battles, we, the taxpayers, may be liable for huge legal fees and large monetary damages to the former owner.

The Agawam Municipal Golf Course is another example of his ego-driven decisions. He was determined to purchase this property at any price. He claims that no tax dollars are involved, but how can that be? He spent \$1,200,000 of your tax dollars to purchase the land. Over \$700,000 was due on the land in back taxes and sewer assessments.

Because we will never collect those dollars, the actual cost of the land will be almost \$2,000,000. These charges would have had to be paid if the land was purchased by anyone else. I have also heard that one of those people bidding against the town was willing to pay all back taxes and assessments on the land, AND to give the town a 50-year covenant that would have guaranteed the use of this land as open space. The Mayor wouldn't even talk to him!

We will also never be able to calculate the cost to the taxpayers of having D.P.W. and Building Maintenance employees spending untold hours at the course instead of on our roads and in our schools. If you were to drive to the country club today, you would probably see our D.P.W. employees working diligently installing part of the new irrigation system.

Any type of profit that the course may be showing must be another example of the Mayor's creative accounting. He seems to have forgotten to repay the taxpayers for lost income and labor costs. Wouldn't you be able to show a profit if you got free labor and paid no taxes?

Johnson's management style has been dictatorial. He has used fear of retaliation to prevent any town employee from speaking out against any impropriety in government. Private individuals had to bring to the public's attention that no health inspections were being done. Private individuals had to point out that necessary school equipment was not being purchased, even though

the funds were available. Why must we always rely on private citizens to protect us from our own ineffective and negligent government?

We all have a chance to change this. You must vote for a change. If you stay home and don't vote, you'll get more of the same. Thank about it!

Please don't forget to clip the coupon and to take it with you to the polls. Please exercise your God-given right to vote. You have a chance to express your opinion as to how your government is being run and you tax dollars spent. Get out and be heard on November 7th.

Peter Longo
Agawam

Clark School Teacher Supports Curtis For School Committee

To The Editor:

I would like to offer my support to Debbie Curtis as a candidate for School Committee. Having had the opportunity to work with Debbie as an educator, I know how concerned and committed she is to her children.

When she was P.T.O. President at Clark, that concern and commitment extended to all of the children and teachers as well. Debbie's enthusiasm for education and compassion for children would be valuable assets for a School Committee member.

Sincerely,
Nancy Shaker
Clark Elementary School

Bitzas Thanks Supporters For Putting Signs On Their Lawns

To The Editor:

I would like to thank all of the people who have my signs on their lawns. My apologies to those who called and I was not able to provide a sign.

Your support and the support of the Agawam people is greatly appreciated. Please remember to vote November 7th.

Thank you again,
George Bitzas
Agawam City Council

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...

786-1127

786-1128

Alexander's

Restaurant & Banquet

60 North Westfield Street
Feeding Hills

Dinner
Mon.—Thurs. 4:00 - 9:00
Fri. & Sat. 4:00 - 10:00

Every Night

With Us You Still Can Enjoy Fine Italian Cuisine Made With Only The Finest Quality Ingredients For Under \$10.00. We Feature Delicious Veal, Chicken, Beef And Seafood Entrees Cooked To Your Liking.

Early Bird Specials

Mon.—Thurs., 4:00 - 6:00

Enjoy A Variety Of Dishes Selected Nightly By Our Chef For \$6.95. Entrees Include Soup Or Salad, Vegetable, Rolls And Butter.

Open For Dinner At 4:00 P.M.

(Closed On Sundays, Except For Private Parties)



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Occasion You're
Planning, Consider
Our Private, Newly
Decorated Banquet
Facility Accommodating
From 50-200

Coupon

Not Valid On Holidays

2 For 1

With Coupon

Order Any Entree And Your Guest Dines
FREE!! *

Monday And Tuesday Only

* When You Buy One Meal At Regular Price, Your Second Meal Of Equal Value Or Less Will Be Deducted. Offer Good On Entrees Only. \$5.00 Bar Minimum Required. Not Redeemable In Combination With Any Other Promotion Or Early Bird Specials.

15% service charge will be added to your bill.

Coupon

Not Valid On Holidays

Wednesday and Thursday Only

Save \$5.00

With This Coupon

On Dinner For 2 Totaling \$20.00 Or More

This coupon is not redeemable on specially priced entrees, lunch menu items, or early bird specials. Only one coupon per couple, per visit. Coupon is not redeemable for cash or with any other coupon or special. Applicable taxes paid by bearer.

Don't Forget To Make Your Reservations For Christmas Parties!

LETTERS - from Page 5...

Danie Expresses Position On Berkshire Power Debate

To The Editor:
To The Voters Of Agawam:

The city elections which will be held on November 7th truly constitute a turning point for Agawam. Unfortunately, it has been a lackluster, low-profile campaign season. Therefore, the voters have not had an opportunity to see and hear from the candidates seeking office.

When I ran for the City Council in 1993, I made certain promises to the citizens of Agawam and to myself. I said that I would not become part of any faction on the Council, but rather, would vote in the best interest of all the citizens of Agawam. I have done that.

I promised myself that I would be the type of politician that people have been saying that they wanted for years; a person who tells you where he stands and votes for what he believes is right, regardless of its political popularity. I have done that. I have never cast a vote with an eye toward winning any popularity contest or with a concern for how it would affect my chances for re-election, and I never will.

The town has made significant strides in the last two years and has a bright future if all of the citizens get involved and let their voices be heard on November 7th.

Unfortunately, a small group of self-interested citizens have tried to turn this campaign into a one issue event, i.e. the proposed power plant. Although I am confident that the voters will see through the rhetoric of the opponents and will evaluate my candidacy on more than one issue, I feel obligated to express my thoughts on the Berkshire Power debate.

Let me say from the outset, that the building of a power plant in Agawam will be a huge benefit to the citizens of Agawam today and in the future. It will help to stabilize our tax base, provide needed money to improve our school system, give us the funds necessary to make much needed capital improvements, and potentially add to the recreational facilities available to the town. A town that can offer a stable tax base, quality schools, a first class physical plant, recreational facilities to serve the needs of our children, and possibly a higher bond rating will enhance the desirability of our community and, therefore, enhance the value of everyone's property.

The opponents have made an issue out of the proposed referendum question relative to plant and have mischaracterized my reasons for opposing the question. They have either not listened to my explanation, or chosen to ignore it.

I opposed the referendum question for a number of reasons. The opposition group has stated plainly that they were not seeking a referendum to measure the wishes of the community. I was present at a meeting of the opposition group when the group's president stated the goal of the referendum was to prevent the power plant from locating in Agawam.

The president went on to say that they were purposely putting forth a question that was biased and geared to elicit a no vote. The opponents, who have wrapped themselves in the Constitution and the people's right to be heard, have conceded that they would ignore the referendum results if there were an overwhelming yes vote.

In listening to the opposition present its arguments, it became evident that truth was the first victim of their war against the plant. I have heard half-truths, misleading statements, and outright fabrications geared to mislead and frighten people into opposing the plant. It became clear to me that a referendum question would provide the opposition with a forum to spread the misinformation to the general public in an effort to frighten the citizenry, confuse the issue, and attain their goal of obtaining a no vote.

The opposition group has attempted to characterize my opposition as a statement that the voters of Agawam are not smart enough to vote on this issue. Nothing can be further from the truth. I am relying on the intelligence of the Agawam voters to see through the tactics of the opponents who are serving their own self-interest. What I have said is that the question of the power plant is not an issue conducive to the referendum process.

I also believe that I was elected to make the tough decisions as well as the easy ones. I believe that voting for the referendum question would have been the politically expedient, easy way out, but would not have been fulfilling my duty to represent all of the people of Agawam.

As an example of the problems with putting this issue to a referendum vote, the opponents have cited issues such as fogging or icing which they claim, with no scientific data to back up their claims, would occur if the plant were to be built. Berkshire Power has presented scientific data in an attempt to show that the opponent's allegations are false, but without specialized scientific knowledge, the voters, myself included, cannot determine the validity of the scientific models used

by Berkshire, and, therefore cannot make an informed decision on these issues. There are other examples of allegations by the opponents which are disputed by Berkshire Power, but again, discerning the truth would require specialized knowledge of the science and technology involved. How then are we to determine who is telling the truth in this matter?

The state has an energy facility siting board whose function it is to review proposed power plants and who have the expertise to determine between verifiable scientific methods, procedures, and projections and facts which cannot be documented or proven independently. Persons testifying before the board will be under the oath, subject to cross-examination, and will have to be able to substantiate their positions and statements.

The opponents have asked, "What are we afraid of?" I am afraid that the opponents will reach their goal of defeating the power plant by misstatements and unverifiable accusations aimed at frightening and misleading the citizens of Agawam. I ask the opponents the same question, if they have credible evidence that the devastation that they predict will come to pass, then why don't they present that evidence to the Energy Facilities Siting Board and prove their case.

What are they afraid of? Why are they trying to short circuit the two-year review process which will allow an unbiased panel of experts with training and experience to determine where the truth lies? If the opponents can establish the truth of their allegations, the plant will not be built.

It is easy to form a committee and create a title that claims you are concerned about Agawam, that does not, however, make that factually correct. I submit that the so-called "Concerned Citizens" may be concerned, but not concerned about the good of all the people of Agawam.

I am proud of my two years on the Council and would like to return for a second term. I do not apologize for any decision that I have made on any issue because I know in my heart that I have given every issue a great deal of thought and made my decisions based upon what I believed to be in the best interest of all of the citizens of Agawam.

I thank you for the opportunity to have served for the last two years and encourage you to get out and vote, regardless of who you support. Don't let the future of Agawam be chartered by a vocal minority pursuing their own self-interest.

Very truly yours,
Robert J. Danie

Time To Elect New People Whom We Can Trust!

To The Editor:

Six years ago, we were asked to elect new blood to our City Council. I made a big mistake because the new blood I voted for have been far worse and have less character than any of the councilors they replaced. In this coming election, I will make sure that I ignore the likes of Johnson, Thompson, Taylor, Danie, and Bitzas.

Especially disappointing is George Bitzas. He has proven many times that he can not be trusted

and that his word is false. There are many examples of Bitzas' true character, but I will only give a few.

When he voted to remove Sanitarian Caz Tryba, Bitzas swore he had nothing to do with any secret meetings. We later found out that he was present at those meetings in which plans were made to remove Tryba. He also gave his word time and again that he would support the Berkshire Power Referendum.

Instead, Bitzas voted against the referendum five times. Bitzas can't deny breaking his word because he made his promises, and then broke them, in the newspapers and during televised Council meetings.

A final example of George's character flaws has to do with his sale of sewer and drainage rights to Centerwood Meadows Estates. The easement sale was recorded on March 29, 1994 in the Registry of Deeds Book 5162, page 294. The abutters, as well as other property owners around Centerwood, were against the development.

George joined in with his friends and neighbors against the development and sent letters and spoke to the Planning Board. What his friends and neighbors didn't know was that while he was joining with them, George was making a deal to sell the sewer and drainage easement rights to the developer of Centerwood.

Without the easement, Centerwood Estates could not be built. George sold out his friends and neighbors for \$7500.00.

I hope that the many folks who voted for Johnson, Thompson, Danie, Taylor, and Bitzas will also admit they made a mistake and join me in voting these people out of office. It's time we removed the old, new blood and elect people we can trust and who will represent our interest and not their own.

Thank you,
John Duni
Agawam

School Comm. Candidate Addresses All Candidates

To The Editor:

An open letter to all candidates in the upcoming election.

Dear Mayoral, Town Council, and School Committee Candidates...

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of you for running such professional and, for the most part, constructive campaigns.

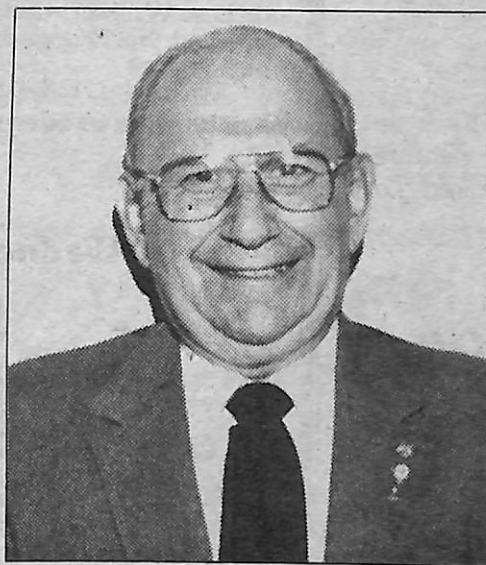
We all feel the need for change in Agawam and, for some people, that is going to be the case. No matter what the outcome, you all deserve a handshake and a "job well done."

Agawam is extremely lucky to have such concerned citizens looking out for its best interests. Good luck to you all.

See you at the polls!
Debra Curtis
School Committee Candidate

SEE LETTERS - Page 7...

Proven Leadership



Reelect
DAVID
SKOLNICK
Agawam
City Council

Honesty And Integrity Still Count

**Pull Level 20 A
Tuesday, November 7th**

Paid for by Scott Skolnick, Feeding Hills

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

LETTERS - from Page 6...

Springfield Advocate Article Tells Story Of Power Plant**To The Editor:**

So very rarely does the *Springfield Advocate* pay the slightest bit of attention to the Town of Agawam, I was shocked and amazed to see Stephanie Kraft's incisive articles on our latest debates, and amazed all the more by the depth of her sound analysis.

While I sincerely wish Ms. Kraft might occasionally, some day, focus on positive developments in our city that are surely worth writing about, and regret that only controversy causes the *Springfield Advocate* to notice and acknowledge the fact of our simple existence at all, what she has illuminated for city residents are facts, problems, and ideas that not even the *Union-News* - whose coverage of our local issues has been exemplary - seemed able to shed any light upon. Every resident should read it!

For what Ms. Kraft has noted, with a political "spin" well in step with the *Springfield Advocate's* politically progressive "tone," are questions of ethics in government that ought to disturb us all. Especially disturbing are several alleged rulings by the State Ethics Commission that ought to give us pause to wonder whether the Commission actually shares our sense of ethics, and if the politicians in question actually can appreciate our concerns about an appearance of impropriety by moving beyond a defensiveness plainly made evident in the routine citing of such rulings.

I respectfully suggest that ethical dilemmas in local politics can hardly be decided by bodies so far removed from our lives, and I firmly believe that ethics is a branch of philosophy so diverse that no school of thought actually predominates to render null and void all alternative viewpoints. Philosophy suggests contemplation, and I suspect soul-searching was not a part of the process through which these "ethical" decisions were made.

Consider: Mayor Johnson, who somehow considers ethical anything said Commission has ever "cleared" for him, has personally benefitted from several of his political decisions in office - decisions that probably provoke a lot of city residents to wonder whether they, too, might someday have the political clout and power to have government work so well for them.

Again, I suggest respectfully that neither the law nor the state Ethics Commission could ever remove from the minds of city residents the sound of logic informing inevitable conclusions to be drawn from his advocacy for the city purchase of properties that have enhanced the worth of his own.

I suspect that he sincerely did intend the preservation of open space, a laudable endeavor, but in his Mayoral capacity he surely had knowledge of its predictable results and insults city residents' intelligence by suggesting its convenience was pure coincidence. An appearance of impropriety certainly does exist in this decision, and any "very serious allegations" surely rest in a conviction that he passed high school Economics. I, quite frankly, believe the Mayor does understand economics, but I will, if mistaken, apologize.

One might imagine that any politicians so very sensitive to various allegations would avoid that appearance of impropriety that inspires such allegations, but Mayor Johnson especially seems almost to have invited the questioning of his motives and it is disingenuous of him to recoil like lagoon from the suspicions that his good fortune, as well as his handling of the Berkshire Power problem, have raised.

Messrs. Roberts and Taylor, within their prior letters, seemed alarmed by the healthy skepticism that inspires good citizenship, equating a failure to dismiss either that "appearance of bias" which Mr. Lawlor noted, or that appearance of impropriety which Ms. Kraft noted, with the genuine slander, libel, and assassination of character that indeed has occurred. It is a false equation made by the two men, erected through faulty logic. Every citizen has every right to criticize such an appearance, and no politician ought to be surprised by whatever spectres any such appearances inevitably conjure forth.

It is not improper, for instance, to suggest Mr. Nicora's well-known views may bias his perception. It is not an indictment of his personal and professional integrity to suggest that objective analysis is, in fact, a Platonic ideal that human beings can only but approximate and approach in much the same way that any number divided by variables approaching zero can only but approach the Platonic ideal of infinity.

Rather, Mayor Johnson is indicting Mr. Lawlor's integrity by suggesting that Mr. Lawlor has assaulted Mr. Nicora, when all that Mr. Lawlor was actually saying was that we can best approach objective analysis by hiring an individual or firm who has not already decided on the project's worth for the city. For Mayor Johnson to deny that "appearance of bias" noted by Mr. Lawlor seems proof enough that human perceptual abilities are clouded by human belief

systems, and I don't expect Descartes to save the Mayor from the situatedness of human thought.

Similarly, by no means is it at all important to suggest an appearance of spite or malice in the dismissal of a citizen's concerns. There may very well exist the possibility that a political opponent of the Mayor does actually have some valid concerns, and that their concerns might not always arise from a desire to trouble him.

Mayor Johnson's high-handed and cavalier dismissal of a golf ball incident referred to by Mr. Harrington has that appearance of having its sole and only foundation in Mr. Harrington's political associations, associations that are his by right of the First Amendment regardless of how the Mayor feels about Mr. Russo.

Likewise, it is not improper to suggest that the respective roles played by Mayor Johnson and the City Council with respect to Berkshire Power have that appearance of not only conspiring to sell the city to Berkshire Power, but also to remove our future from our very own hands. There truly does exist that appearance of conspiracy - by no means am I suggesting an illegal conspiracy - to bring to life the words penned over 30 years ago by novelist William S. Burroughs in a prescient moment:

"The junk merchant doesn't sell his product to the consumer, he sells the consumer to the product. He does not improve and simplify his merchandise. He degrades and simplifies the client." ("Deposition: Testimony Concerning a Sickness," *Naked Lunch*. New York: Grove Weidenfeld, 1990. xi.).

That appearance indeed exists, and while I'm

not about to cast aspersions and say that a conspiracy did in fact occur, city leaders have not exactly discouraged that image in the minds of voters. Acting as advocates for Berkshire Power, city leaders have continually parroted the facetious argument of Mr. Walsh against the referendum; have acted as a public relations department for Berkshire Power; have refused to deliberate as a public body regarding Berkshire Power; have circumvented open meeting laws to deny press and public access to their discussions about Berkshire Power; have used every parliamentary trick at their disposal to prevent the sole and only true poll that could ever be conducted regarding the power plant; and even acted to help engineer the best of circumstances for successful pocket veto by Mayor Johnson if any question actually did get approved.

This all certainly gives an appearance of their being agents for Berkshire Power, while the Mayor's own prediction of the "charter objection" which caught so many people by surprise gives that appearance of being the scenes collusion on behalf of Berkshire Power.

So very disturbing, indeed, are these ethical dilemmas now plaguing us that I have many reservations over whether city leaders have the slightest idea what ethics truly are, never mind whether the consideration of ethics has the slightest impact on their decisions.

Owen Broadhurst
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 8...

YOU CAN FEEL THE PRIDE

ON YOUR MARK. GET READY. CITGO!

Snack Size Candy

- Fifth Avenue
- Kit Kat
- Mounds/Almond Joy
- Reese's P.B. Cup



8 For \$1.00

Lowest Milk Prices

Gallon (1%) - \$1.69
Gallon (Skim) - \$1.79

**Half Gallon
Florida O.J. 99¢**

Lowest Cigarette Prices

\$2.00 Off All Cartons Of

- Winston
- Camel
- Montclair
- Basic
- Cambridge
- GPC
- Doral
- Monarch

All Promotional Costs Paid
For By Cigarette Manufacturers.

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking
By Pregnant Women May Result In Fetal Injury,
Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.

Mrs. Murphy's Donuts

Fresh Daily
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**1/2 Dozen
Donuts - \$1.99**

For Use At Scott's Citgo
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Get 1 Free**

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Smokeless Tobacco

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SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking
By Pregnant Women May Result In Fetal Injury,
Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.

SCOTT'S CITGO

650 Suffield Street
Agawam

**Open
24 Hours**



LETTERS - from Page 7...

Voters Can Get Back At Our Arrogant Politicians

To The Editor:

Election Day looms before us, and when it is over, this newspaper will report on the winners and losers. Unfortunately, if Christopher Johnson, Nancy Thompson, James Taylor, Robert Danie, and George Bitzas are reelected, we, the people of Agawam, will all be the losers.

First, we must consider the record of Mayor Johnson. Unfortunately, his record is not a good one as it is riddled through with single-minded pursuits of his personal pet projects. These projects, including the turf farm, the golf course, and the power plant scheme, will probably wind up costing Agawam far more than could ever be repaid. Added to this is Mr. Johnson's total disregard of the voters' concern.

It is hard to imagine the amount of arrogance involved in his reelection bid, when evidently Mr. Johnson is also convinced that he is above the ethical and legal restraints that apply to the public at large. He has flaunted state law recently by standing with his campaign supporters on state highway property to wave at motorists in the Rt. 57 rotary. While using little-known state laws to squelch opposition to HIS schemes, he has conveniently ignored state law forbidding pedestrians and advertising on the state highway right-of-way, law which he was informed of earlier.

In all, it appears Mr. Johnson has done nothing but play politics and abuse his office, which certainly indicates that he should step down now, if he ever should have held office at all.

Ms. Thompson appears to be a one-issue candidate. While she continues to use her Town Council seat to advertise for senior citizen issues, a worthwhile cause, she ignores her other constituents and their concerns. Worse, she has been openly antagonistic to citizens by ridiculing them during THEIR "Citizen Speak Time" at Town Council meetings, as well as trying to cut off speakers whose views she did not like. This is added to her well-witnessed taking and acting on hand signals from Berkshire Power's Ken Roberts during council meetings. Again, there appears to be an attitude of arrogance here, an attitude which has no place on OUR Town Council, much less in that body's president.

Councilman Taylor has snubbed voters and citizens continuously this year. When he ignored concerns about the power plant scheme, and citizens asked for a ballot question, Mr. Taylor stated that there should be no government by referendum. Such a statement was totally inappropriate considering the gravity of that issue, and the history of similar important issues in the past, such as the sewage treatment plant and the trash incinerator.

Apparently, Mr. Taylor thinks he knows better what is best for us than WE do. Such a dim view of the voters is of more concern when he, too, has been witnessed defying state law by campaigning in the highway rotary with his cohort, Mr. Johnson. Perhaps it has not occurred to Mr. Taylor that a holder of public office should avoid engaging in this activity.

Mr. Danie made comments earlier this year that the public is too ignorant to make decisions on important issues. In addition, he made an embarrassing series of outbursts while being interviewed on the radio concerning the power plant scheme. This apparent lack of self-restraint and dim view of the voters' judgement call into question Mr. Danie's suitability for public office. Perhaps, he, too, feels that he is above the rules of behavior that the rest of us live by.

Finally, there is Mr. Bitzas, who also has ignored the concerns of many of his neighbors concerning the power plant scheme. Twice during the summer, Mr. Bitzas stated that he supported the voters having a say in that issue, and then proceeded to vote against a ballot question on it. Such flipflopping on an important issue, plus his hobnobbing with non-resident power plant proponents at council meetings while ignoring residents, call into question where Mr. Bitzas' loyalties really lie.

It is one thing to be a player in the political game, another to fully represent one's constituents in the political process. Apparently, Mr. Bitzas would rather be a "real politician," which is certainly NOT an endorsement for further office in this town.

If there is one theme running through the reelection bids of the above politicians, it is arrogance. Their support of outside interests and their own pet projects, and their disregard for citizens' concerns, indicate that Johnson, Thompson, Taylor, Danie, and Bitzas feel that we, the voters, are too apathetic, too complacent or too blind to seek alternatives. I hope we voters prove them all WRONG.

Additionally, considering their selfish attitudes toward their fellow Agawam residents, I find it hard to believe that they currently could garner much support during this election campaign. One has to wonder who could support these people other than their own relatives and personal friends, those uninformed on the issues or those

seeking or currently receiving consideration from these politicians. There is little to commend these politicians other than political shenanigans and the appearance that something is going on.

In the few days before Election Day, I urge my fellow voters to carefully examine the candidates and issues for themselves. I am confident that such examination will indicate that those who do not serve the public should not be returned to public office. Please consider the challengers to Johnson, Thompson, Taylor, Danie, and Bitzas when you vote on Tuesday, and send a strong message that WE want responsive, considerate, representative government in Agawam, as well as a say in OUR future.

Rob Keenan
Agawam

It's Time For New Leadership In Ag. School Department

To The Editor:

It is good news to hear that Agawam will have the opportunity to select a qualified leader in the schools who has the vision of uniting the community when it comes to our education system.

Our present Superintendent, along with the School Committee, has really divided our community and has turned their backs on the parents. At the AIDS meeting last year, the School Committee refused to listen to parents along with the Superintendent, and this year is no different.

Many of our fine students are now attending Pioneer Christian School, McDuffy, and various private institutions along with many in a home school program. This is the result of poor vision, poor leadership, and bowing to political activists.

What we really need in this community is to eliminate the condom supporters from the School Committee, a Mayor who will listen to parents at times other than election year, and a paring down of the school structure. I was at a few meetings that parents requested so they could have some input with the Superintendent only to observe that the case was already made out and the decision was made ... parents get lost.

The series of meetings that were held only to pacify parents and give them some hope that the AIDS program could be altered. Many parents purchased programs at their own expense and presented to the Superintendent at one of the meetings. Not one of these programs was accepted nor were they read by the Superintendent at his own admission at the School Committee meeting.

We need someone who has the ability to bring the students back to Agawam, get rid of the politics in the school system, work closer to what the decent people want and get rid of the immorality being taught in the name of Health Education. Health activists are running the program now.

Our Town Council had a discussion one evening on TV about our School System and I was surprised to see how many members objected to how the schools are being run. Some of their children attend private schools. They don't have faith, why

should we? Just look across the river at Springfield and see how their community is declining with many people leaving because of the school problems there. Property values have dropped to an all-time low. Just scan the newspapers.

Wake up, Agawam! In the coming election, you have the ability to make some sweeping changes. Get rid of the condom supporters on the School Committee or nothing will change in the schools because they will hire the status quo. Get rid of the AIDS program run by the Health Department in our schools, let the parents teach the children the values they want them to know instead of the School Committee taking over our children's moral values ... which are values that are questionable to the point of perversion at its lowest form.

We must stop experimenting with out next generation or we may find a generation lost beyond repair. They must build on solid and truthful ways, not fiction or myth.

Very truly yours,
Stu Smith
Agawam

Stieg's Campaign Manager Criticizes Mayor On Debate

To The Editor:

Mayor Johnson, on Dan Yorke's radio program on Thursday, October 19th, said that he would get back to me by Friday, October 20th, with an answer to Karl Stieg's challenge of a Lincoln/Douglas type debate.

All of the incidentals that the Mayor requested of me to take care of were accomplished and set before him on live radio. Johnson replied that he would let me know by close of business, Friday, October 20th.

MAYOR JOHNSON NEVER CONTACTED ME.

I've called Chris Johnson at the Mayor's office, and was told to call him at home because it was not proper to call during working hours on campaign matters. I had to hunt Chris Johnson down in the evening at a senior citizen event when he stated in the press that no one from the Karl Stieg camp notified him of Karl's wish to debate.

Karl Stieg will debate Chris Johnson anywhere, anytime. Preferably, to do so before the election.

Mayor Johnson, on the other hand, is:

A. Inept because he forgot his promise.

B. Dishonorable because he remembered his promise.

C. Scared to debate with Karl Stieg, Lincoln/Douglas style.

C. All of the above.

Mayor Johnson asked me to do all of the leg work. Then after I did what he asked, he simply ignored me. What gives Mayor Johnson the right to treat people that way? This man has no "sense of decency."

Michael DelNegro
Campaign Manager
Stieg for Mayor

SEE LETTERS - Page 10...

VOTE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH PULL LEVER 27A

ROSEMARY SANDLIN

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

POLLS ARE OPEN 8:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Rosemary Sandlin, Frank Socco, Treasurer

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

*** Please Vote *** on Tuesday November 7th

Johnson Supports Our Schools

- **INCREASED** spending for our schools by over \$20.9 million as compared with level funding while the State **CUT** local aid to the town by over \$11.1 million during the same period.
- **PREPARED** construction plans and **RECEIVED** state and local funding approval for additions and renovations to all 4 elementary schools and the high school and **BUILT** the new Early Childhood Center at Perry Lane Park.

Johnson has Improved Our Roads

- **ROUTE 57 WILL OPEN ON NOVEMBER 3rd** after over 30 years on the drawing board.
- **ROUTE 187 (South Westfield Street);** Silver and Suffield Streets; Mill Street Intersections; North and North Westfield Street Intersection and numerous reconstruction and repaving projects.

Johnson is Fiscally Responsible

- **NO OVERRIDES OF PROPOSITION 2½ and NO NEW FEES.** Agawam has one of the lowest operating budget per capita figures in the entire state (308th out of 339 communities).
- **NO INCREASES in WATER and SEWER RATES** in over 5 years.

Johnson has Strong Record on Quality Economic Development

- **9 NEW BUSINESSES** in the Agawam Regional Industrial Park in the last 2 years alone which has brought the total employment in the park to over 1,000 jobs.
- **SUCCESSFULLY COMPETED** with 11 other communities to attract the **Berkshire Power Project** which will create 200-250 local union construction jobs, 15-25 quality permanent jobs, and be the largest taxpayer and water/sewer rate payer in Agawam.



Re-Elect

Chris Johnson

Mayor

Positive Leadership for Agawam's Future

LETTERS - from Page 8...

Candidate Kent Servis Is A Responsible Environmentalist

To The Editor:

My name is Larry Davidson, and I am in the business of promoting bass tournaments here in the Northeast. Our environment is very important not only to the fishing industry, but to everyone else as well.

I am asking the voters of Agawam to vote a responsible environmentalist to a position on the Agawam City Council.

Kent Servis is a person who can weigh the needs of industrial expansion and arrive at solutions that keep our environment intact.

Kent has worked hard to protect the Connecticut River as well as the fish resources. He has testified at numerous hearings and is known for his expertise in many parts of Southern New England.

He has been involved in starting a program in Rhode Island known as "Our Children's Fish." The program is an educational and lobbying organization designed to save New England's salt water game fish, so that our children and grandchildren can enjoy our resources in the future.

Kent has also worked with organizations such as Strippers Unlimited and has taken part in the striped bass restoration effort, and has been recognized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The fish have not been the only ones to profit. Kent is a certified biology teacher and helped to found Youth Fishing Systems. This is a program that helped to teach fishing skills and outdoor awareness to inner city youth that had been in trouble with the law.

I don't live in Agawam, but I am envious of the people of Agawam who have an opportunity to be represented by someone with Kent's dedication and willingness to make a difference. He is a knowledgeable and powerful speaker who can build agreements between hostile factions. Kent has the ability to bring out the best in others.

Many people in our region have taken advantage of Kent's abilities and organizational skill. I hope that the people of Agawam will take good advantage of an opportunity for good government.

Sincerely,
Larry Davidson
29 Smallwood Street
Springfield, MA

Servis Will Provide Positive Change To Agawam Council

To The Editor:

This year, the voters of Agawam have an opportunity to make a change in their City Council. Kent Servis is a candidate for a seat on the Council.

I have known Kent Servis for many years and I can not think of anyone better to represent the citizens of Agawam. He is articulate, intelligent, and persuasive. He also has the ability to get along with and work with anyone.

Kent has been active in helping to keep Agawam a good place to live. He helped to protect the property owners in Town by writing and getting unanimously passed the Agawam Taxpayers Bill of Rights.

Kent Servis was instrumental in stopping a traffic nightmare in Agawam. A developer from the eastern end of the State wanted to turn the Mill St. and Tennis Road area of town into another Riverdale Road.

The projected traffic that the giant complex would have generated was over 19,000 cars a day. Kent founded Citizens Against Reckless Development on the day that the plans were announced.

Kent saved our town from a project that would have devastated local businesses. Kent organized the opposition to this project and worked with our elected officials in passing a resolution to the Mass. Highway Dept. opposing the project. Kent and the citizens of Agawam have so far been successful in stopping further progress by the developer.

Kent Servis is the type of person who gets things done effectively. The people of Agawam deserve to be represented by someone who will always look out for the rights of its citizens. There is still much to be done to improve the quality of life here in Agawam.

Please help Kent to finish the job, and pull lever 19A on voting day.

Sincerely,
Linda B. Scheve
Feeding Hills

Perry Asks Voters For One Of 11 Votes For Council

To The Editor:

On November 7th, the voters of Agawam have a very important decision to make. You, the voters, can make a difference in how our local government runs.

I urge every registered voter to go out and exercise that right. Vote for the candidate of your choice.

I am asking you, as a candidate, to please consider me for one of your 11 votes. I feel I can bring a positive change to the City Council. Please pull Lever 4A and remember, you can make a difference.

Thank you,
Dennis J. Perry
Feeding Hills

SEE LETTERS - Page 11...

Check
our
classified
pages
every
week



Kasparian

FOR AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL

IF YOU FEEL A NEED FOR: Improving the working environment of our dedicated town employees through open communication and fair negotiation . . .

I will work for YOU. Vote Kasparian—LEVER #11

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

RE-ELECT

Roberta G. Doering

for

School Committee



Pull
Lever
26A

Pull
Lever
26A

I believe the most important goal that we have is trying to give all students the necessary tools for learning—the capacity to read, write, communicate, and comprehend.

We should aim for turning out young women and men with a broad view of history, an understanding of mathematics and science, and a sense of the economic, social, and legal issues which affect life today.

Dedicated

Experienced

Qualified

Paid by James A. Doering, M.D., River Road

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R E - E L E C T

TERESA

KOZLOSKI



SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Vote for our Mom on November 7

Paid for by Maria, Lena and Henry L. Kozloski

LETTERS - from Page 10...

Explanation Due From Town On Ag. Health Department

To The Editor:

A few years ago, Mayor Johnson proposed and the City Council passed a new ordinance which gave the Mayor oversight authority of the Board of Health. This ordinance effectively put responsibility for the health and safety of our city into the hands of the Mayor.

How has the Mayor done in this role? Not well! Initially, Johnson and members of our Council, meeting secretly, decided to eliminate an important Health Department position. The resulting fight is now known simply as the "Tryba incident." Since January of 1992, it has been known as court docket no. 1477, and Mr. Tryba and the town may be in court for many years and it may cost the taxpayers a considerable amount of money in damage awards.

The Mayor was warned at the time that one man would have a difficult time doing all of the required inspections in this town. He wouldn't listen! We have recently heard allegations that there may have been no inspections made of our restaurants and other eating establishments for up to three years.

This leads us to ask the question: Did the Mayor know that there were no inspections being made and cover up that fact, or did he not know that inspections weren't being done and thus fail in his duty to all of us. Either way, the Mayor owes us an explanation.

Why did it take the efforts of a 94 year-old citizen of our community to bring this problem to our attention? If this gentleman did not speak out, I suppose that the health agent would still be on the payroll and inspections ignored.

If this is the shoddy way that Mayor Johnson is protecting the citizens of Agawam, how well will he oversee the inspections of the proposed power plant?

Since this incident has occurred, there has been no more information on this matter. One has to wonder what deals are being made, and why they are being kept quiet before the election.

Peter Longo
Agawam

Councilor Dziardziel Voices Support For Mayor Johnson

To The Editor:

I am writing to voice my support for Mayor Christopher Johnson. Over the past six years, Mayor Johnson has done an admirable job of preparing Agawam for the future. We have made tremendous strides in preserving open space, making long-overdue capital improvements, and updating and preserving the quality of education in Agawam. All of this has been done in the face of cuts in state aid and without proposing an override of Proposition 2½.

The improvements and expansion of services in Agawam is due to the administration and leadership of Mayor Johnson. As a Councilor, I have worked closely with Mayor Johnson to ensure that the quality of services offered to the residents of Agawam is enhanced, and to bring quality industry to Agawam. I know first-hand the difficulties Mayor Johnson encounters during the course of the daily administration of the town.

In spite of these difficulties, Mayor Johnson has always put the best interests of the whole Town of Agawam before his own personal interests. Also, Mayor Johnson has always been open to new ideas and suggestions for new programs and services to offer the residents of Agawam.

This is evidenced by the new programs put into place during his tenure as Mayor (as an example, the after-school day care program). Because of Mayor Johnson's leadership, the quality of life in Agawam has been dramatically improved.

In closing, I urge the voters to seriously consider the goals, vision, and accomplishments of Mayor Johnson before casting their votes on November 7th. The Town of Agawam needs a strong leader who has its best interests at heart, and that leader is Mayor Christopher Johnson.

Very truly yours,
Vivian M. Dziardziel
Town Councilor

Bitzas Is Looking Forward To Another Term On Council

To The Editor:

To The People Of Agawam:

Next Tuesday, November 7th, you are going to have the opportunity to vote for Mayor, City Council, and School Committee. We are living in a good community, but like many other towns we have some problems.

We need to continue to elect good, honest officials who truly care about our town. We are not a

one-issue town, and this should not become a one-issue election.

Our town has many issues, a most important one being our children's education, for our children are our future. We are also very concerned with our town services, our taxes, our public safety, our elderly, and our town's economic development.

As your City Councilor for the last six years, I feel I have proven to you that I work for what is in the best interest of our town. I have never been a part of any special interest group. I have three children in our school system, and I do care deeply about our schools.

My 95 year-old mother has lived with us for the last 16 years, so I am well aware of the needs and concerns of the elderly. I own a home and I worry about property values and our tax rate.

I strongly opposed and spoke against the move by two councilors to increase the homeowner's taxes. I feel I am the Councilor who has the most accomplishments, and I am very proud of it.

Today, I am asking you again for one of your 11 votes so I may be reelected to the Council. I would like to have the chance to work for two more years for the people of Agawam.

Sincerely,
George Bitzas
Agawam City Council

Response To Letter About "Me Too" Generation

To The Editor:

I should like to comment on the "skewed" Kavanaugh item in the Sunday, October 22nd *Republican*. As I read it, the tears from my eyes dropped on the *Republican* page B3.

Poor Mr. Kavanaugh, raised in a time of pro-

sperity virtually unknown to the youth of the 32 million (yes, 32 million, sir) senior citizens now drawing Social Security. What Mr. Kavanaugh has done is declare war on the A.A.R.P. and its members. O.K., Mr. Kavanaugh, we can take it, but don't quote unsubstantiated facts from out of the blue.

When Social Security first started, we were told that the government would invest our money and by the time we were 65, it would have multiplied enough by investment to pay for our retirement. The fact that the government didn't do this is not our fault. I know that interest rates were astronomical enough in the late 1970's and early 1980's to build up the Social Security investments of millions of people so their funds would have been perfectly adequate for their retirement. In fact, reports have said that even now there is a surplus there.

So don't, Mr. Kavanaugh, tell me about getting back more than is entitled to me. If the money isn't there, it is the fault of the government's fiscal policy, not mine. The government made a contract with me and I expect it to keep it.

Now I have a suggestion for you, Mr. Kavanaugh. I don't know how old you are, but you sound like you are part of the "me too" generation. We senior citizens have our own organization, the A.A.R.P. If you are going to declare war on us, you need your own organization. You could call it "Bastion of Unretired Restive People" with a symbolic acronym of B.U.R.P. for short. In other words, instead of crying like a baby, go out and work for your own future like we did for ours.

Sincerely,
Robert E. Colburn
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 12...

A NEW FACE FOR MAYOR OF AGAWAM



LET'S SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT!

The Mayor claims that AGAWAM COUNTRY CLUB "was purchased, improved and operated at no cost to the tax payer."

THE TRUTH IS.... IN PURCHASING THE PROPERTY THE MAYOR GAVE UP OVER \$740,000 IN BACK TAXES AND WATER ASSESSMENTS AND GAVE UP ANY FUTURE TAX REVENUE.... PRESENTLY, THE COUNTRY CLUB IS NOT PAYING ANYTHING OFF IT'S DEBT and TOWN EMPLOYEES, WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN MAINTAINING OUR SCHOOLS AND PARKS, HAVE SPENT 1000'S OF HOURS "IMPROVING" THE CLUB HOUSE AND GROUNDS.

The Mayor claims that he is the "education mayor".

THE TRUTH IS DESPITE THE FACT THAT AGAWAM'S BUDGET HAS INCREASED OVER \$10,000,000.00 SINCE HE CAME INTO OFFICE, HE HAS CONSISTENTLY UNDERFUNDED THE SCHOOL BUDGET! HE WAS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR LAST YEAR'S BUDGET CRISIS AND THIS YEAR'S "CREATIVE ACCOUNTING FIASCO".... UNDER THIS ADMINISTRATION WE COULDN'T SUPPLY PENCILS AND PAPER FOR OUR CHILDREN.

The Mayor claims that Berkshire Power would be good for Agawam while also claiming that we will continue to "maintain Agawam's small town character"

THE TRUTH IS HE CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS. THE PROPOSED SMOKE STACK WOULD BE FOUR TIMES HIGHER THAN OUR ZONING LAWS ALLOW AND ALMOST ALL OF THE BUILDINGS PROPOSED BY BERKSHIRE POWER WOULD BE TALLER THAN ANY OTHER BUILDINGS IN AGAWAM.... AGAWAM'S SMALL TOWN CHARACTER WOULD BE LOST FOREVER.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

KARL STIEG

FOR MAYOR OF AGAWAM

LEVER 1A

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Paid By Stieg For Mayor Committee

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LETTERS - from Page 11...

Some Public Officials Forget Who They Work For!

To The Editor:

On September 5th, a letter was addressed to Mr. Donald Charest with copies to Mayor Johnson and Superintendent Ryder. The purpose of the letter was to request an additional bus stop and thus ensure the safety of our five year-old daughter as she leaves each day from day care to catch the bus for kindergarten.

However, this "Letter To The Editor" is not about the fact that a five year-old child needs adult supervision at a bus stop (contrary to the belief of Mr. Charest). I find it difficult enough to drive by a bus stop with high school age children, lest one of them dart into the road.

Nor is this letter about common sense; when a day care provider must dress six children (including an infant), cross the street, walk to the current bus stop to see our daughter re-cross the street in order to board the bus, when all the while, the door of the bus actually passes in front of the provider's front door.

Nor is this letter about setting a precedent. However, a precedent already has been set. It seems that at least two of the bus stops established on the route were achieved by individuals who were "in the know."

Being new to the Agawam school system, we were unaware of the players or procedure involved in bus stop selection. Perhaps each parent should be informed of the planned bus route, then each may make their case in writing, so that bus stops can be selected fairly.

However, what this letter is about, is customer service and common courtesy. In the "real world" when a letter such as the one described is sent with copies to managers at higher levels, the courtesy of a reply is expected. Apparently, Agawam has some public officials who have forgotten who they work for. They have forgotten who their customers are.

Only can only speculate on the reason(s). Perhaps our high-level school administration has more important problems than the needs of their most vulnerable students? And to our Mayor, if you claim to be concerned about public safety, exactly whose safety are you concerned about?

Again, one can only speculate, but the taxpayers of Agawam deserve better service.

Sincerely,
Gary J. Mascladrelli
58 Princeton Avenue
Feeding Hills

Agawam Is Lucky To Have Bitzas As A Town Councilor

To The Editor:

In last week's edition of "The Agawam Advertiser," I read an article about Councilor George Bitzas listing his accomplishments over the last six years. I have always been and will continue to be one of George's strongest supporters.

I feel that George has been very serious about his work on the Council. He is an honest person who really is interested in our town. He tries to do his best to represent the people of the community, even when his own personal viewpoint may be different.

I have found George to be a councilor who is willing to listen to all sides before he makes up his mind about major issues.

We are fortunate to have him on the Council. I feel he is an asset to our community and should be reelected so he can continue working for our town.

Sincerely,
Jane E. Gallerani
Feeding Hills

Suffriti Supports Candidacy Of Dennis Perry For Council

To The Editor:

I am seeking my third term as a member of the City Council. I would appreciate one of your 11 votes. Also, I ask you to please consider the candidacy of Dennis Perry.

I believe Dennis would be a great asset to our community as a member of the council. I've known Dennis for better than 25 years and know he is one of the most honest, sincere, and hard-working people that I know.

Most importantly, Dennis will be his own person and an independent thinker.

He would vote on the merits of the issues and not with any factions.

Also, Dennis will listen to the concerns of townspeople and then act on these concerns.

I do not believe that the present council has been behaving lately in the best interests of our community. Please vote for Dennis Perry on Election Day in Agawam.

Sincerely,
Gary Suffriti
Agawam City Councilor

Mayoral Candidate Karl Stieg Makes A Positive Impression

To The Editor:

To The Voters Of Agawam:

With today's political climate making it harder and harder to keep faith in our political leaders to look out for the average citizen, it was refreshing to meet Karl Stieg.

I asked Mr. Stieg questions concerning the needs of our schoolchildren, the care of the town's elderly, and allowing the Democratic process to take its course when an issue (such as the power plant) would have a profound impact on our town's way of life. On all these issues, he came across as very sincere, honest, and having done his homework on the challenges facing Agawam.

He has no hidden agendas that would override the pressing needs of our community. Karl comes to this election as a concerned citizen and devoted parent, but most of all as a candidate with an open ear when it comes to the needs and priorities of the people.

I believe his desire and qualifications for the office of mayor will give Agawam a much needed, hands-on, can-do leader for our future.

Sincerely,
Denis Surprenant
Feeding Hills

Curtis Has Right Traits For Ag. School Committee

To The Editor:

It is a known fact that anyone running for School Committee should have the following traits:

- * Loves children.
- * Is a giving person.
- * Knows the difference between a nicety and a necessity.
- * Is not afraid to fight for what they believe in.
- * Children's welfare is the highest priority.

A friend and neighbor of ours, Debra Curtis, has these traits. In addition, she has been involved with education in Agawam for the last 10 years and, as a past P.T.O. president, she knows what is lacking in the school system. She judges issues fairly and never plays favorites.

If this is the kind of person you want on the School Committee, then we suggest you, too, vote for Debra Curtis for School Committee member.

Sue and Tom Roberts
Pineview Circle
Agawam

Nancy Thompson Brings Professionalism To Council

To The Editor:

We are writing this letter in support of the re-election of Nancy E. Thompson to the Agawam City Council.

Ms. Thompson's professional approach in her role as a City Councilor and as the President of the Council adds a much needed element to the proceedings of the Council. She works very hard to represent the best interests of all the residents of Agawam.

Her record of public service to Agawam reflects her concern, interest, and willingness to give of her time and talents to making our community a better place in which to live. We have especially witnessed first hand her commitment and service to the senior citizens of Agawam.

It is no easy task to be in public service. We are grateful that Ms. Thompson has chosen to work for our community of Agawam - she has done a commendable job.

We encourage voters to re-elect Nancy to the Agawam City Council. She will continue to be a positive force and an asset to the government of Agawam.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Janice & Matthew Bonk
Feeding Hills

Bitzas Deserves Reelection To Agawam Town Council

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter to show my support for the reelection of George Bitzas to the Agawam Town Council.

My wife and I and our two children have lived in Agawam for the last seven years. In these seven years, we have come to know George and his family. Our sons have played together on the Agawam soccer and basketball teams.

I find George to be a very fine, upstanding individual. He is dedicated to service the citizens of our town. George is deeply committed to improving the educational system in Agawam, along with the sports program for our children.

Please show your support for George Bitzas for Town Council.

Sincerely,
Sam Siano
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 13...

YEAR END TAX PLANNING.

INDIVIDUALS:

- Are you **maximizing** your **retirement contributions**? Do you have a retirement plan?
- Have you invested in any **tax-free securities**?
- Have you **transferred** any **assets** to **your children**?
- Have you **donated** that pile of **old clothes** yet?
- Are you choosing the right **filing status**?

SMALL BUSINESSES:

- Does your **business** own the **property** it occupies?
- Are your workers **employees** or **independent contractors**?
- Are you **depreciating** property as **quickly** as possible?
- Are there any **receivables** you know **you won't collect**?
- Do your **children** work for you?

THE BEST ADVICE,
THE BEST PRICE.

THE TIME IS NOW. RIGHT NOW.

PAUL LOUIS MANCINONE
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
ATTORNEY AT LAW

66 NORTH MAIN STREET
SUFFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06078
(203) 668-6559

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"FOR AGAWAM'S FUTURE"

RE-ELECT

COUNCILOR
GEORGE

BITZAS

The Councilor With The Most
Achievements And A Record
That You Can Be Proud Of.

* Honesty * Integrity * Dedication * Competence * Common Sense

Paid Political Ad

LETTERS - from Page 12...

Caba Was Never Involved In "Secret Meeting"

To The Editor:

There is circulating in town a letter which, while mentioning me favorably, also accuses Ed Caba of being at the so-called "Secret Meeting" which resulted in the firing of Cas Tryba and at long last, the firing of Ron Young.

Caba was never implicated and I'll defend him to the limit. I've sent him a copy so he can disavow it. We already have enough evidence against the Mayor to discredit him in the eyes of fairminded people and maybe in a court of law. We don't need to make charges against innocent people.

Now I can leave you to ponder over your tax increase while you wonder about the Mayor's huge abatement. You should also wonder about the enormous and expensive effort by Johnson to stack the Council in his favor by backing Chris Quatrone in the way he has been doing the last few days.

What about the "separation of powers?" Is this good government? Chris Quatrone bought and paid for by Chris Johnson?

Sincerely,
Walter P. Harrington
Feeding Hills

Bitzas Deserves Your Vote For Agawam Town Council

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter on behalf of City Councilor George Bitzas, not only to show my support of his re-election, but because he has always voted in favor of any items that have come before the Council pertaining to veterans.

In fact, it was Mr. Bitzas who presented the Flag resolution to the Council in 1991 which was adopted.

I urge all veterans and their families to support George Bitzas as he seeks re-election on November 7th.

Sincerely,
Pete E. Pappas
Agawam

Beautification Members Support Bitzas Campaign

To The Editor:

In the past two years, we have had the opportunity of working closely with George Bitzas on the Beautification Committee and other projects in the community.

We have been impressed by his boundless enthusiasm to actively work on those major issues which are important to us all and by his willingness to contribute large portions of his personal time, away from his family, to work on our behalf.

More importantly, we have observed his vigorous efforts, not only to vote his conscience, but also to avoid the acrimony and divisiveness which has characterized Agawam politics in the past. While we have not agreed with him on every issue, we respect the thoughtfulness he has brought to his decision on each issue.

Our system of government allows for honest differences of opinion and he, and every other politician who does the same, should not be vilified by those who may have a different point of view on any single point.

George Bitzas' character, overall voting record, and many accomplishments speak for themselves and are more than sufficient for us to support and recommend his reelection to the Town Council.

John & Sasha Zebryk
Agawam

Agawam High's Math Team Competes In Local Meets

To The Editor:

The Agawam High School Math Team placed sixth in a field of 17 local high schools. Keith Jendza, David Martin, Michael Freeman, Paul Lally, Ted Lee, and Heather Cassidy, under the direction of Beverlyan Pasternak, were the members who participated in this first meet of the 1995-1996 season.

This first of five meets was held at Palmer High School. The Math Team is now preparing for the next Math Meet to be held at Chicopee High School on November 7th.

Agawam High School Math Team

Former Council Candidate Supports Edward Caba

To The Editor:

Dear Family & Friends:

As you all know, I have decided not to run for council this year. I have, instead, decided to support Edward A. Caba. I believe Ed to be a superb candidate.

Over the past few years, a true friendship has developed between Ed, his wife, Marjorie, and myself. I have had the opportunity to watch Ed. I have personally observed the hard work, dedication and time that he puts into the job of Councilman.

He has the qualities that I believe are important for the office. When he takes a stand on an issue, it is truly because he believes his stand to be in the best interest of all the citizens of Agawam, not some select few ... which is what we all really want.

In closing, I would like to say I am proud to support Ed Caba for Councilman. I would hope you would all do the same. Please, on Election Day, pull Lever 11A.

Yours truly,
Loren Montagna
Agawam

Happy 40th Anniversary To Agawam Polish Club

To The Editor:

Twenty-five charter members one night had a meeting in a cellar and started the Polish American Club of Agawam. Money was tight at that time. The site chosen even had a chicken coop.

Today, the club has the reputation as being the most caring and sharing club in town. Its open space remains. The club has a heart of gold as fundraisers for all worthwhile causes are held here.

Recently, the club graded and seeded the back of the pavilion. Like the good ole' days, folks can eat, drink, and play at the new Polish grove. So, give a honk or a salute as you drive by.

Happy 40th Anniversary to the finest club in town.

Eddie Barako
Club Secretary



Pull
Lever 12A

Vote

JOSEPH F.
LANGONE
For City Council

- ★ Lifelong Agawam Resident.
- ★ 1989 Graduate Of Assumption College
B.A. (Cum Laude), English.
- ★ Instructor For Over Five Years In Adult Education
At Massachusetts Career Development Institute.
- ★ Agawam Lions Club Member.

STRENGTH IN UNITY

Vote

Tuesday, November 7th

LANGONE
COUNCIL

Veterans' Graves To Be Flagged On November 4th

The Agawam Veterans' Council, along with American Legion Post 185 and the World War II 50th Anniversary Committee, have set plans for the flagging of veterans' graves in Agawam for the Veterans' Day observance.

The group will meet at the Veterans' Services Department, Town Hall, at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 4th, to pick up flags.

State law provides that the graves of all veterans be flagged each and every Memorial Day. Agawam's policy is to flag every veteran's grave with a new flag on Memorial Day, and for Veterans' Day we replace only those flags that are faded and tattered.

Anyone wishing to help with the flagging should meet with us at Center Cemetery at 9:15 a.m. We appreciate all the help possible.

For all the local news, you turn our pages every week

Keenan Announces D.A.R.E Grant For Town Of Agawam

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to announce that Agawam has been awarded a grant of \$16,000 to help fund the D.A.R.E. Program in the town. The grant is part of the \$4.5 million D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) grants for Fiscal Year 1996 administered by the Executive Office of Public Safety.

"These funds are especially vital to equipping our children with the necessary tools to resist the drug culture and peer pressure," stated Rep. Keenan. "The D.A.R.E. Program is an effective weapon to safeguard our children against the dangers of drugs and alcohol."

The grants will help fund necessary classroom materials and up to 40 percent of the D.A.R.E. officers' funding in the communities being awarded grants this year.

Check our classified

DPW Says Nov. 9th Late Date To Apply For Water Connection

The Agawam Department of Public Works has announced that November 9, 1995 is the last date for applying for water connections, water connection renewals, sanitary sewer connections, or storm drain connections for installation prior to this winter.

Connections applied for after this date will not be installed until the spring of 1996. This notice does not apply to the homes in areas where connections have previously been installed to the property line.

Check our classified pages



Kasparian

FOR AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL

If YOU FEEL A NEED FOR:

Reducing the tax burden on property owners . . .

*I will work for YOU. **Vote Kasparian—LEVER #11***

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ELECT KENT SERVIS AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

17 Year Resident

Married Father Of Two Children

Former Science Teacher

18 Years Of Business Mgt. Experience

Member N.E. Outdoor Writers Assoc.



Supports Fully Staffed Police & Fire Dept.

Strong History Of Environmental Concern

Taxpayer Rights Advocate

Strong Support For Senior Citizen Issues

The Taxpayer's Choice

AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN KENT SERVIS

Authored, And Successfully Got Passed The **Agawam Taxpayers Bill Of Rights** To Help Prevent Property Tax Misunderstandings.

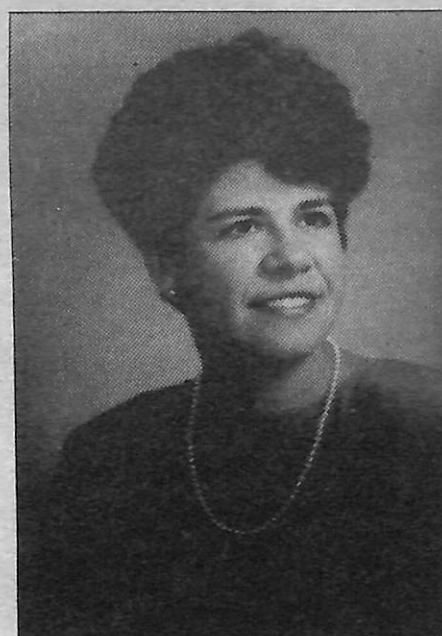
Formed **Citizens Against Reckless Development** And Stopped Development Of Gigantic Shopping Center That Would Have Brought **7 million cars a year** To The Mill And Suffield St. Area Of Town.

PLEASE INVEST 1 OF YOUR 11 VOTES FOR COUNCIL WITH KENT SERVIS PULL LEVER 19A

Re-Elect

Re-Elect

LINDA GALARNEAU FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE



• **Dedicated**

• **Experience**

"I am committed to creating an educational environment that identifies and meets the needs of all our students and encourages them to reach their potential."

**LINDA GALARNEAU
CANDIDATE FOR
RE-ELECTION
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

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Campaign '95

As A Town Councilor, Moreno Says He Will Get Financial Answers



VALENTINE R. MORENO

Agawam Town Council candidate Valentine R. Moreno today released the following campaign statement.

Moreno said, "Agawam is looking at \$80 million of capital expenditure plans. Here's the question - WHY CAN'T WE, THE PEOPLE, as well as the City Council, get a true, total, and absolute audit of our financial affairs? The truth about the town's financial affairs are not available? Why?"

"Numbers are spewed from the administration at City Hall without certain and total audits. Why does the administration hide the financial faults of our government? I have been the 'watch dog' of the financial affairs of Agawam's taxpayers for some 50 years and will not put up with this as a member of the council.

"Why do members of the council take orders from the Mayor? Why are these councilors allowed to do this? The Mayor operates without proper consideration to the 'separation of powers.'

"The council must give full consideration to its legal duties. The council must get to the truth of matters that are presented to them. A simple yes or no answer to any actions offered by the administration must and should get authentic and

total investigation by the full council. That is their job! Otherwise, we have a dictatorship.

"How many issues have been decided in this community without them first being properly considered?"

"How deep in debt must this community get before we control our runaway \$80 million debt? The present administration loves to spend and spend more. We must have members on the council who will question the Mayor and simply not nod their heads in approval.

"I am qualified to do this job as a member of the council. Please, allow me to be your financial 'watch dog' and work for you, the taxpayers of this community.

"The qualifications I have to be a member of the council come from years and years of involvement in our local government. I will work tirelessly for you, the taxpayers. I will see that you, the people, get the true story of any and all actions taken by the council.

"Please, pull Lever 11A on Tuesday, November 7th. As one of the 11 members of the council, you will hear my voice working for you," concluded Moreno.

If you like the way your town is being run, then reaffirm your faith in your incumbent officials by casting your vote on their behalf. If you wish a change, then vote for a newcomer.

RE-ELECT
ED CABA for
Agawam Town Council

• 1980 •
AGAWAM UNICO AWARD
for
Outstanding Dedicated Service to Agawam

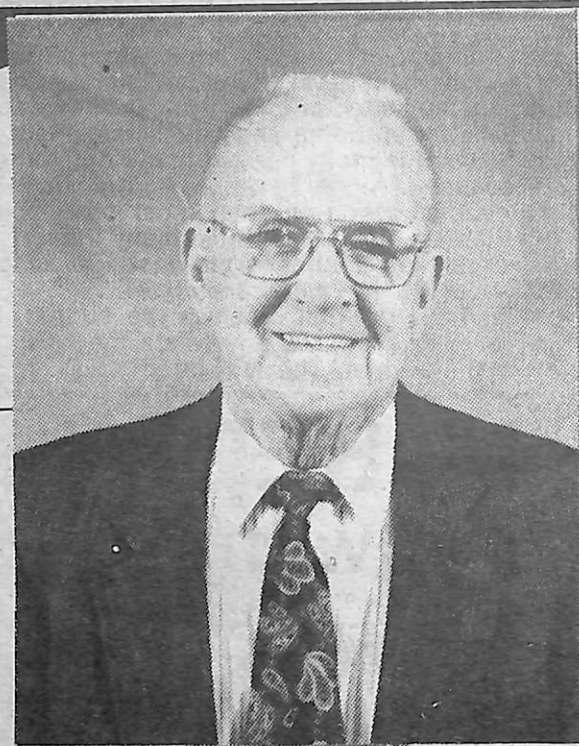
NOV. 7TH

A DEDICATED
PUBLIC
SERVANT

**Pull
LEVER 11A**

In Appreciation
EDWARD A.

• **CABA** •
Honorary
Member
POLISH CLUB
of Agawam



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580 North St.
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61 Senator Ave.
BERNARDINE M. POLOPEK
61 Senator Ave.
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218 Beekman Dr.
PAUL V. PALEOLOGOPOULOS
1411 Main St.
LEONARD C. BELCHER
49 South St.
REIDAR NORDAL
203 Cooper St.
ALICE R. CHATEL
17 Giffin Pl.
ERNEST C. SWANSON
254 North St.

BARBARA SWANSON
254 North St.
EDWIN P. ARNOLD
251 North St.
KATHLEEN G. ARNOLD
251 North St.
MARILYN CURRY
427 Southwick St.
HOLLIS KANE
148 So. Westfield St.
BERTHA A. KANE
148 So. Westfield St.
DONALD P. CURRAN
79 Ottawa St.
PHILIP J. DeFORGE
137 Florida Dr.
ANGELINA NICORA
33 High St.
DORIS M. KELLOGG
173 No. Westfield St.
ALVIN R. KELLOGG
173 No. Westfield St.
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WILLIAM B. HERD
19 Clover Hill Dr.
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KRISTEN L. WRIGHT
198 Walnut St.
JOHN F. ANDERSON
46 Central St.
MARY A. ANDERSON
46 Central St.
PHILIPPE O. RAICHE
300 South St.
ROBERT R. DeFORGE
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526 So. Westfield St.

JOSEPH A. CZERPAK
636 So. Westfield St.
MARY ANN CZERPAK
636 So. Westfield St.
FRANK CHRISCOLA, Jr.
1185 Suffield St.
EDWARD J. STEPANIK
490 Southwick St.
ANN M. BRADFORD
21 Oxford St.
WESLEY E. BRADFORD
21 Oxford St.
EDMUND D. COFFEY
47 So. Florida Dr.
LOUIS V. SCHERPA, Sr.
6 Althea Circle
LOUISE L. SCHERPA
6 Althea Circle
PAUL FIELDSTAD
7 Oxford St.
JOHN J. NEGRUCCI
35 Hayes Ave.

Campaign '95 - continued...**Galarneau Promises To Continue To Push Educational Goals**

"During my tenure on the School Committee, I am proud to say that our school system has made positive strides in addressing the needs of our students," said School Committee member Linda Galarneau in a campaign statement.

"1. This past summer we were able to establish our own summer school program and in the future, we hope to expand the program to include enrichment programs as well.

"2. The additions to our elementary schools and the High School will be underway within the next two years, and as a member of the Space Needs Committee, I saw first-hand the need for expansion because of the lack of space for current programs and the projected increase in student population.

"3. Our before- and after-school Child Care Program is a vital service because it provides a safe environment for our younger students and peace of mind for their moms and dads.

"4. Through the use of grant monies, we were able to enact a drop-out and drug and alcohol prevention programs for our High School students.

"5. A system-wide K-12 curriculum review was established and is currently under way. This curriculum guide will ensure correlation of material between elementary, middle, junior, and senior high school. It will also eliminate repetition as well as gaps in information. The guide will ensure that all students will have access to the same enriched curriculum and the opportunity to strive for excellence.

"I believe that through our efforts and accomplishments, our school system is not only in



LINDA GALARNEAU

step with the Education Reform Act, but we are laying solid ground for which to build on.

"I have always believed in our students and their capabilities. I also believe that all can meet success if they are in an educational environment that not only identifies their needs but also meets them. With your vote on November 7th, and my experience and commitment, I will be able to continue to work toward providing the educational opportunities necessary for all of our students to meet success."

Residents with any questions or concerns may reach Galarneau at 789-0245.

Councilor Bitzas Seeks To Improve & Expand Athletic Programs

In a press release issued this week, City Councilor George Bitzas stated, "We moved to Agawam 16 years ago and, through the years, I have become aware of the need for the expansion of the athletic programs in our town.

"My three children have all reaped many benefits from the town programs. They have participated in and enjoyed soccer, basketball, and baseball. I know from first-hand experience what good programs are run here in Agawam.

"I strongly believe that we have some of the best athletic programs in the area. This is due to the dedication of our coaches, assistant coaches, our parents, and our children. Our games are always well-attended, with parents and friends cheering our teams and showing our support for them.

"Sports can teach our children teamwork, competition, discipline, and the rewards and disappointment that can come with participating. Good sportsmanship is always emphasized.

"As a parent and a City Councilor, I have been a strong supporter of our sports programs. I worked hard and lobbied against the proposed athletic fees, so every student would have the opportunity to participate. As our town grows, so does the need for adequate sports facilities.

"I am currently working for more athletic fields to be built at Tuckahoe Farms. Agawam has historically been a sports-oriented town, and we want to be able to continue our tradition by having enough fields and courts available for all children who wish to participate.

"With your vote, I will be able to continue to work to expand and improve our town athletic programs," concluded Bitzas.

Russo Says Town Has Experienced Unprecedented Tax Increases

"We have had unprecedented tax increases each of the last six years. What is worse is that we haven't anything to show for it," said City Council candidate Louis Russo in a campaign statement.

"We are years behind in capital improvements, our educational system is in shambles, and normal, ordinary services are nonexistent. Such an occurrence has never happened in Agawam's history. Our elected officials must look at stabilizing taxes for all home and business owners and provide what is really needed in our community.

"Because of higher taxation, Agawam is in better financial condition than most other towns. Why then are we lacking in so many things? The answer can only be that we are wasting the money and resources that we already have.

"When the Council receives the budget, it is their duty to eliminate any waste they may find within the budget. The last budget was approx-

imately \$40,000,000.00, however, not a single wasteful dollar was cut by the Council. The budget was then passed with hardly any discussion and only the destructive \$500,000.00 School Department cut was eventually made, without the Council's approval.

"Because of such actions, I hope that I will be allowed to be a member of the City Council. As a councilor, I can once again insure the best use of taxpayers' money and prevent any continued wasteful practices.

"In the past, I have caused the elimination of waste in three budgets and voted against all tax increases. I would again be a voice for sound fiscal management and eliminate budgetary waste," concluded Russo.

Democrats Offer List Of Candidates For November 7th Election

The Agawam Democratic Committee urges all the residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills to vote for the following candidates:

For City Council: Edward Caba, Thomas Ennis, Valentine Moreno, and Louis Russo.

For School Committee: Teresa Kozloski, Louis Massoia, and Rosemary Sandlin.

**ROBERT J. DANIE
Agawam City Council**

- Professionalism
- Integrity
- Independence

Concerned About The Best Interest Of
ALL Of The Citizens Of Agawam

**ON NOVEMBER 7TH, VOTE
DANIE FOR CITY COUNCIL**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Robert J. Danie

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FOR AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL

IF YOU FEEL A NEED FOR:

Building our own new, larger, and modern
senior center...

I will work for YOU. *Vote Kasparian—LEVER #11*

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

Move Agawam Forward

Re-Elect

**Nancy E.
Thompson**
City Council

- Current Council President
- Former Chairperson, Agawam Council on Aging
- Member Friends of the Agawam Senior Center
- Vice-President Massachusetts Municipal Councilors' Association
- Chairperson Women Elected Municipal Officials
- Registered Nurse - Bachelor & Master's Degree (Univ. of Mass/Amherst)

Pull Lever 16A

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Campaign '95 - continued...

Stieg Holds Fundraiser As Campaign Winds Down



IN PHOTO LEFT, Mayoral candidate Karl Stieg and supporters gathered for a fundraiser at Maria's Restaurant on October 28th. Seated are Eleanor Forni, Andrea Stieg Wieners, and Ron Wieners. IN PHOTO RIGHT, Stieg and supporters are pictured at his campaign headquarters. From left - Tracy Brayall, Judy Stieg, Mary Ghedi, and Deborah Schulte. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Curtis Announces Candidacy For School Committee

In a statement released this week, Debra S. Curtis of 18 Arrowood Drive, Agawam, wished to announce her candidacy for School Committee:

"I am an involved parent as well as a concerned citizen. My three children represent three different schools in this town. Those who know me, know that when I say CURTIS CARES, I am ready to stand behind those words! I think if we dig deep, we'll muster up enough pride to bring the Agawam School System back into the envious eyes of surrounding towns.

"Our kids matter and I intend to prove that we as parents, educators, and School Committee people *care* enough to go the extra mile. No one committee person is an entity in him or herself. Therefore, no single candidate can make a definite promise that they can change the whole system.

"However, we can modify, diversify, and dignify our current academic programs to better enlighten our children's perception of what school is all about. It's very evident that changes

have got to be made, and I'm not going to list all of them for you now. We've heard them over and over again. I hope you will allow me the opportunity to be a part of the rebirth of the Agawam School System.

"In conclusion, I ask that we stop the complaining and become an active part of the system by VOTING, and when you do, please cast a vote for Debra Curtis, Agawam School Committee," she stated.

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A NEW FACE
FOR MAYOR
OF AGAWAM!

KARL STIEG

Pull Lever 1A on Election Day
Tuesday, November 7, 1995

Paid Political Ad



WHAT KARL STANDS FOR!

OPEN GOVERNMENT

- * CHARTER REVISION
- * SEPARATION OF POWER
- * STATE AUDIT OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

PRIORITIZE TOWN NEEDS

- * EDUCATION
- * STABILIZATION OF TAXES
- * STRONG BUSINESS BASE
- * SENIOR CITIZEN NEEDS

BERKSHIRE POWER

- * OPPOSED TO POWER PLANT
- * FAVORS REFERENDUM IN ANY FORM
- * MAINTAIN THE CHARACTER OF OUR TOWN

KARL STIEG'S QUALIFICATIONS

Board of Directors for Sacred Heart Athletic Assoc.
Coach— Sacred Heart A.A. Intown and Suburban.
City of Hartford, CT Environmental Committee.
University of Hartford.
Transportation Certificate from University of New Haven.
15 years of Management Experience.
Union State Legislative Representative.
UCONN Board Member Railroad Archives.
U. S. Army Veteran.

If you have any questions or would like to help please call
CAMPAIGN CHAIRMAN: MICHAEL DELNEGRO 786-2588

Paid By Stieg For Mayor Committee

WING-DING
"FUN" RAISER

MEET



Rosemary Sandlin
CANDIDATE FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Sunday, November 5, 1995
1:00 to 3:00 P.M.

at

E.B.'s Specialty Chicken Restaurant
385 Walnut Street Extension, Agawam

Buffalo wings and soft drinks
Donation: \$6.00/person.
Children under 12 free.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Rosemary Sandlin
Frank Socco, Treasurer

Paid Political Ad

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Campaign '95 - continued...

MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON

Johnson Thanks Town & School Employees

"I just wanted to take a moment to thank all the employees of the town and the schools for their hard work and dedication to our community," said Mayor Christopher C. Johnson in a campaign statement.

"Throughout the election process, I have issued press releases which have highlighted my record as Mayor, and stressed the many positive accomplishments that the town has achieved over the past six years. None of those accomplishments would have been possible without the hard work of the town and school employees.

"Whether it is the teacher in the classroom, the public works employee on the street, or the administrative person in the office, all the employees share in the success of our community. We are not perfect and we make our share of mistakes, but I believe that we all share a desire to make Agawam the best place to live and work.

"I hope that I can continue to work with the many wonderful people who serve our community," concluded Johnson.

Thompson Points To Record Of Service During Council Tenure

Agawam City Council President Nancy E. Thompson, a candidate for re-election, states she has a demonstrated record of service to Agawam's senior citizens.

Ms. Thompson was a member of the Agawam Council on Aging from 1984-1991. During her tenure, she served as vice-president and then president of the COA. She was a member of the group which planned, organized, and eventually incorporated Friends of the Agawam Senior Center which this year celebrates its 10th anniversary. This organization provides much needed financial support to the Senior Center and to its ability to provide services to all Agawam's senior citizens. Councilor Thompson is also a member of the Agawam Senior Games Athletes.

According to Councilor Thompson, she has carried her commitment to Agawam's senior citizens into her role of City Councilor. She recently supported the application for a grant to expand the Senior Center. She also voted for an increase in the number of members who can serve on the Council on Aging citing that increased membership will allow for more input, ideas, creativity, leadership, and varying perspectives which ultimately will benefit services to all Agawam's elderly.

Councilor Thompson states she is a strong advocate for issues related to senior citizens. She has spoken widely and has actively involved herself in senior citizen issues and activities. As a registered nurse, she has worked in the area of geriatric nursing.



NANCY E. THOMPSON

Councilor Thompson states, "The operation of services for Agawam's senior citizens has greatly expanded and diversified over the last 10 years. Currently, 20 percent of Agawam's population is age 60 and over. This demographic percentage will continue to increase.

"To be involved with Agawam's senior population and to have impacted on the services and issues related to them has been both a privilege and a joy for me. I pledge to continue my proactive stance in representing and meeting the needs of all of Agawam's senior citizens."

VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH:

If you like the way your town is being run, then reaffirm your faith in your incumbent officials by casting your vote on their behalf. If you wish a change, then vote for a newcomer.

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ELECT DENNIS J. PERRY FOR CITY COUNCIL

1. A life long resident of Agawam.
2. Married and father of 3 daughters, all currently in Agawam's school system.
3. General manager of Balzers Tool Coating, located in Agawam's Industrial Park.
4. Agawam athletic girls basket ball coach.
5. Member of the Mayor's committee on casino gambling.
6. Endorsed by the Springfield Union News as one of only two new candidates for City Council.

**FOR A STRONG "BUSINESS" AND
"COMMON SENSE" LEADERSHIP!**

**PLEASE PULL LEVER 4A
"DENNIS PERRY FOR CITY COUNCIL!"**

Paid Political ad by: George and Barbara Perry
13 Mooreland Street
Feeding Hills, MA

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

Elect Chris Quatrone Agawam City Council A Positive Change For Agawam

To the Residents of Agawam:

I am pleased to ask you to join with me in supporting **Chris Quatrone for Town Council**. Chris is a hard-working individual who cares very deeply about our community. I have had the pleasure of working with Chris on many issues that he considers vital such as quality education for our children, open space and economic development. Chris has always acted with integrity and professionalism in his efforts to make Agawam a better place to live and raise a family.



I urge you to support **Chris Quatrone for Council on Tuesday, November 7th**. I believe Chris has the right combination of education and initiative to make a positive difference for Agawam's future.

Very truly yours,

Christopher C. Johnson
Christopher C. Johnson
Mayor

**On November 7, Vote For A Positive Change
For Agawam**

**Elect
Chris Quatrone**

Paid for by Citizens for Quatrone

Campaign '95 - continued...



JAMES D. TAYLOR

Taylor Looks Forward To Another Term On The City Council

Agawam City Councilor James D. Taylor, candidate for reelection, said recently, "Serving in public office is an exciting and rewarding experience, and I look forward to working with the people of Agawam as we seek to provide the best representative government possible."

During his two terms on the council, Taylor has fought for fiscal responsibility, open space preservation, and public safety. "These are issues that I hope to continue pursuing in my third term," said Taylor. He also hosted yard waste disposal workshops and the first Department of Environmental Protection composting bin distribution program in Western Massachusetts.

Taylor was elected council president in his first term and served in that capacity for two years. He was largely credited with bringing decorum to often stormy council meetings.

In 1992, Taylor was appointed by Mayor Christopher C. Johnson to the Hampden County Executive Board and the Hampden County Advisory Board. The boards are the legislative body for the county. He also serves as the chairman of the city council's committee on ordinances, and is a member of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority's board of directors.

While council president, Taylor was instrumental in securing funding for the new Agawam Fire Headquarters that will replace an obsolete wooden structure on Elm Street. He is a member of that project's building committee, where his experience in local government, firefighting, real estate, and construction will be invaluable.

During his first year on the council, Taylor served as chairman of the Route 57 committee. Phase I of that project is scheduled to open on November 3rd.

A licensed real estate broker for 17 years, Taylor is the owner and general manager of the real estate investment firm of Taylor Property Services. He is also a licensed construction supervisor.

A graduate of the Agawam Public School System, Taylor earned his degree with high honors from Springfield Technical Community College. He is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa International Scholastic Honor Society and was included in the 18th annual edition of *The National Dean's List*. He is currently pursuing a public administration degree at the University of Massachusetts.

Taylor is married to the former Cindy Sanford and has two children in the Agawam Public Schools.

Candidate Russo Reveals Why He's Running For Council

In a statement released this week, City Council candidate Louis J. Russo remarked, "Very often, friends and strangers alike have come up to me and asked me why I would want to be elected to the City Council. Why would I want to subject myself to the frustration and political hypocrisy so inherent within our present City Council?"

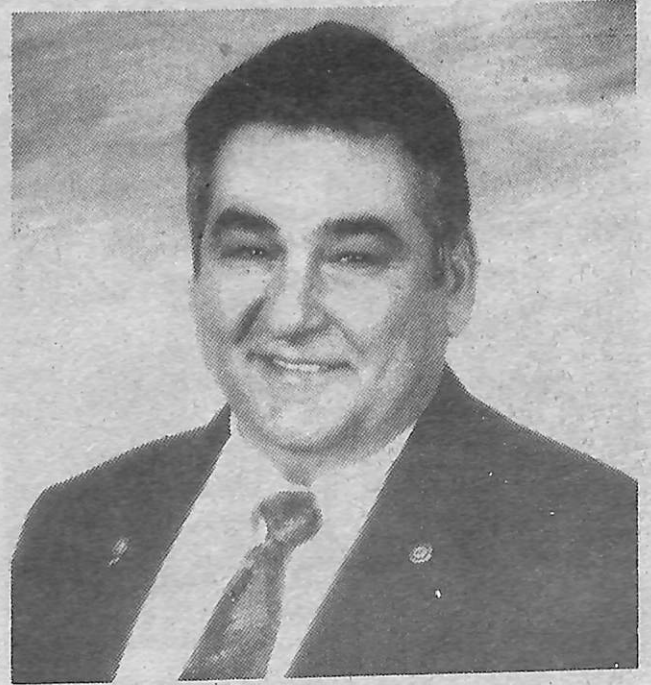
"My response is to say that it is less frustrating and more important to sit on the council and try to make things better than to sit idle in the audience and be able to do nothing."

"However, I don't believe that a councilor's only purpose is to make the council better. To be sure, improving the council is an important part of the job, but it is just one of the moral facets of the position."

"It is my belief that the main purpose of any municipal office, whether elected or appointed, is to make the community better and provide assurance to its residents. A good councilor will not only vote in favor of those things that are beneficial to the community, but will also speak out against those issues or proposals that are harmful. Therefore, a good representative should be judged by the beneficial things that he or she does as well as the bad things that he or she prevents. It is the responsibility of those in government to insure that they serve the 'community's interest,' and not the special interest of any political factions, groups, or individuals, including themselves."

"A councilor's decisions must be based not only on what he or she believes, but also the wishes of those who elected them, and no one else. Councilors must also insure that they do not interfere with the voters' rights, even if they disagree with their constituents. For example, if their constituents want them to support a certain issue, such as a referendum, a councilor must fulfill their constituents' wishes."

"Understandably, whenever a group of people discuss an issue, there will be disagreements. This is as it should be since disagreement and debate are essential if all aspects of an issue are to be brought forward. However, debate should be done with the purpose of determining all the facts



LOUIS J. RUSSO

and then reaching an amicable and sensible agreement among those involved. Only then can the community and the citizens' best interest truly be served."

"Councilors must be open, straight forward, and accessible to the people, and among themselves. This same attitude should also extend to everyone in public service from the mayor right on down. Anything less defeats the purpose of good government and forgoes the community's best interest. If everyone in government is willing to work together, then reasonable solutions can be found to solve our town's problems. If our public officials would recognize and admit their limitations, and are willing to learn from each other, then great things can happen for Agawam."

"In closing," said Russo, "the things I have just stated may sound somewhat idealistic, but they are ideas I have always practiced and believed in. As I have stated in the past, I would rather be outspokenly honest than dishonestly silent. I pledge to all of Agawam, that if elected, the things I have spoken about won't be ideas that are merely put into words. They will be ideals that will be put into practice."

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**A NEW FACE
FOR MAYOR
OF AGAWAM!**



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WHAT ABOUT US MR. MAYOR?

**YOUR PROPERTY TAXES
WENT DOWN BY
MORE THAN.....**

\$3000

**YET YOU ADMIT THAT YOU
HAVE RAISED OUR TAXES**

27.8%

**WHY DID THE MAYOR LOWER HIS TAXES,
WHILE HE HAS BEEN RAISING OURS??**

ELECT.....NOVEMBER 7th.....LEVER 1A

KARL STIEG FOR MAYOR

Paid By Stieg For Mayor Committee



Kasparian

FOR AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL

IF YOU FEEL A NEED FOR:

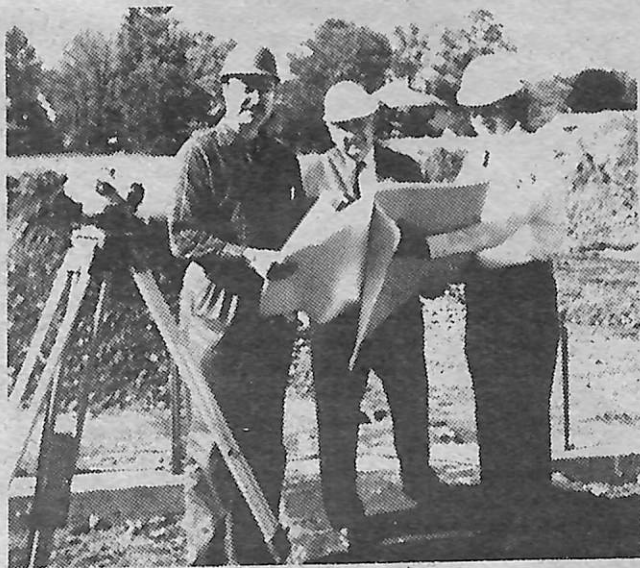
*Zoning law revision to ensure the integrity of
our neighborhoods...*

*I will work for YOU. **Vote Kasparian—LEVER #11***

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

Campaign '95 - continued...

Fire Station Support



TOWN COUNCILOR JAMES D. TAYLOR (left) discusses the construction of the new Agawam Fire Department with architect Alfred Casella and Fire Chief David Pisano. Taylor and Pisano are members of the Fire Station Building Committee. The new station is scheduled to open in the spring.

Council Candidate Russo Supports Rights Of Condo Owners

"I have known many condominium owners over the years, so when I attended the recent coffee hour put on by the condo owners, I was not surprised at their concerns," stated City Council candidate Louis J. Russo in a press release issued this week.

"Condo owners," he continued, "are Agawam's forgotten taxpayers. As a result, one of their main concerns is that they are looked upon and treated as second-class citizens. Such a stigma should never be placed upon any of Agawam's citizens, including taxpaying condo owners.

"The only difference between condo owners and the rest of us homeowners is that we receive all services for our tax dollars and they don't. Even though they pay the same taxes we do, condo owners don't receive trash pickup, snowplowing, leaf and yard waste removal, or street repairs.

"Perhaps there are ways that we can eliminate some of the inequities. For example, since recycling began, we have not been able to meet the tonnage requirements at the Bondi's Island incinerator. As a result, we have paid penalties that are as much as \$40,000.00 per year to dump our trash.

"Speaking with those present at the meeting, I related that for many years I have suggested that the town should pick up condo trash. Doing so, we would be able to meet the tonnage needs at the incinerator and not have to pay penalty fees.

"I also stated that working together with the condo associations, we can find mutually beneficial solutions to existing problems. A case in point is that the town recently started picking up condo recyclables because we also had tonnage problems at the recycling plant. It is a good idea, but we should not wait until we need the condos to bail us out of penalty fees or other problems.

"We should be looking for ways to help the condo owners who, in turn, can help our community before a problem arises. I have suggested for several years that perhaps the town can give a tax cut to the condo owners. Such a cut would be equivalent to what the rest of us pay for services that condo owners don't receive.

"Also, regular meetings between the condo associations and our elected officials will provide the mutual benefit that the entire town can gain from. But most importantly, we can remove the second-class stigma that condo owners don't deserve," concluded Russo.

ADVERTISER NEWS



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46 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA 01001

General Legal Services

Including Real Estate • Wills • Bankruptcy
• Auto Accidents • Domestic Matters

Business Expansion Could Be Enhanced By Less Red Tape: Servis

"I have spoken to many business owners here in town and the same theme keeps repeating itself. There is uncertainty regarding future zoning laws, and there is a perception that red tape could be minimized at the level of local government," said Council candidate Kent Servis in a campaign statement.

"This is not to say that the people at City Hall are not doing their jobs," Servis said.

"What the business owners are saying is that it would be easier to modernize and expand if they knew what was expected of them before and during the process.

"One of the concerns of business owners along Springfield Street is what they perceive to be neighborhood deterioration. Sometimes this becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. As one or two business establishments close and board up their store fronts, others lose faith and question whether they should make additional capital improvements.

"We must stop the economic slide and get a more positive approach to helping our business base survive. In response to this, I propose the following:

"1. Formation of business owners neighborhood associations, something along the lines of a neighborhood Chamber of Commerce. Shared ideas and collaborative problem solving sure beats sitting in isolation and waiting for something to happen.

"2. Appointment of a town official to act as a liaison between city government and the business owner or potential entrepreneur. Most business owners are experts at their town specialty, but can easily become bewildered when it comes to complicated zoning issues, code compliance, or permits.

"3. Institute a comprehensive zoning review and modification, but fine tune it so that we do not punish existing business interests and let's finally get it on the books. This might have saved much heartache and bad feelings this year!

"4. Promote a shop in Agawam first campaign.

"5. Let's make every effort to make sure that the



NORTH AMERICAN BASS ANGLERS, which represents recreational fishermen throughout the Northeast, has presented Kent P. Servis of Feeding Hills with the 1995 "Conservationist of the Year" Award. Servis was cited for working hard to protect our nation's waterways from environmental damage. He has delivered expert testimony at public hearings and has worked to preserve the future of our fisheries resource, said angler President Lawrence P. Davidson (pictured with Servis).

Town of Agawam encourages local business to enter into the competitive bidding process when Agawam needs to buy something.

"6. When the town does do business with our local merchants and suppliers, insure that the bills are paid in a timely manner so that the business is not placed in a tenuous cash flow position.

"I am already working with some business owners on Springfield Street, helping them to organize. I will be happy to meet with any other segment of our business community to assist in forming neighborhood business associations. In numbers there is strength.

"If elected, as your City Councilor I will continue to try and solve the problems facing our community. I hope that I may earn one of your 11 votes for Council. Please pull Lever 19A," concluded Servis.

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Kasparian

FOR AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL

If YOU FEEL A NEED FOR: Free and open access to your Councilors—including unencumbered access to the referendum process...

I will work for YOU. *Vote* Kasparian—LEVER #11

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Clip This Valuable Coupon:

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Redeem On November 7th At The Polls

These Elected Officials CHEATED you of your RIGHT to VOTE
They refused to support the BERKSHIRE POWER REFERENDUM
5 times. THEY DON'T DESERVE YOUR VOTE.

If You Agree Please SKIP The Following Levers

Christopher Johnson	SKIP Lever 2A
James Taylor	SKIP Lever 5
George Bitzas	SKIP Lever 6
Robert Danie	SKIP Lever 9
Nancy Thompson	SKIP Lever 16

These People Said No To You,
Now It's Your Turn To Say No To Them!

Please Vote For Candidates That Will Represent You!

Paid For By Peter Longo - Adams Street, Agawam

Campaign '95 - continued...

Council Candidate Quatrone Holds Fundraiser



LOCAL OFFICIALS WHO CAME out to support the council candidacy of Chris Quatrone at the Captain Charles Leonard House included, from left - Town Councilor James D. Taylor, Quatrone, council President Nancy Thompson, and Mayor Christopher C. Johnson.



FORMER TOWN COUNCILOR and School Committee member Jessie D. Fuller says she is supporting the council candidacy of Chris Quatrone on November 7th.



Ask Dr.

by Stephen Jacapraro,
D.M.D.

1379 Main Street,
Agawam, MA 01001
(413) 786-8177

THIS SPACE IS TAKEN

Q. Is it a problem if a child loses a primary tooth prematurely?

A. It can be. There is a tendency of adjacent teeth to "drift" toward the open space. This could interfere with the proper positioning of the successor tooth when it is ready to emerge into the vacant space. The permanent tooth might come in crooked or it could even be prevented from emerging. In some cases the dentist will apply what is called a space maintainer to "reserve" the space.

To determine if this is advisable, the dentist will examine the area and take an X-ray. If the primary tooth was lost recently and the permanent tooth is expected to emerge soon, it's not likely to require action. But in other cases, the dentist might install a space maintainer to stabilize the adjacent teeth. The device is removed once the new tooth begins to move into place. If your child loses a primary tooth too early, make an appointment for an examination and evaluation.

FLUORIDE FACTS

Q. How effective is fluoride in preventing cavities?

A. "Fluoride has long been recognized as the most reliable preventive measure for caries control," says a report on a Government-sponsored project to reduce tooth and gum problems. "Unfortunately, more than 100 million people in the U.S. are not served by fluoridated water supplies," it notes.

In areas where drinking water is fluoridated, there has been a remarkable decrease in cavities among children. Fluoride also is helpful to adults who, for one reason or another, are at high risk of decay. With Americans on the move from one region to another, where water may or may not be fluoridated, there are means to assure that family members are getting adequate amounts of fluoride. Consult the dentist about your family's needs, appropriate choices of toothpastes and rinses and whether or not fluoride tablets or fluoride treatment in the dental office are in order.

Brought to you as a public service by Dr. Stephen R. Jacapraro, D.M.D., 1379 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001, (413) 786-8177.



TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATE CHRISTOPHER QUATRONE is congratulated on his candidacy at his October fundraiser at the Captain Charles Leonard House by local officials including Town Councilor Jill Simpson (right).

Paid Political Ad

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VENETTA



SNYDER

★ SCHOOL COMMITTEE ★

Paid for by Debora Poirier and Richard & James Snyder

Campaign '95 - continued...

Town's Finances Have Maintained, Improved Services Says Mayor

"I have worked hard to improve the financial condition of the town over the past six years," said Mayor Christopher C. Johnson in a campaign statement.

"This has been a difficult task given the recent national and regional economic recession. During my tenure as mayor, the state has reduced local aid to the town by over \$11.1 million as compared with level funding. I have worked hard to improve the quality of our services and expand the level of service that we provide. At the same time, I have tried to reduce overhead and improve the productivity of the town employees.

"I am proud that Agawam remains one of only a handful of communities in Massachusetts to never even attempt an override of Proposition 2½. During my tenure (six years), Agawam has raised real estate taxes by 13.75 percent while the consumer price index has risen by over 23 percent. The town has not introduced any new fees such as a solid waste fee, and our general fee schedule has not changed in over five years. The town has also not increased water and sewer rates in over five years.

"Agawam continues to have one of the lowest average single family tax bills in our area, and has one of the lowest operating budget per capita amounts in all of Massachusetts (308th out of 339 reporting communities). I have worked hard to make Agawam an affordable community in which to live and operate a business. In fact, our commercial/industrial tax rate is also amongst the lowest in the Greater Springfield area, and helps in the attraction of new businesses to our community," said Johnson.

"I have also worked hard to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our local government. I have begun the implementation of the team management process and organized work groups to better manage tasks. I have reduced overhead expenses such as workers' compensation costs and insurance costs through better risk management and new claims handling procedures. The town has undertaken energy audits and implemented energy control and conservation measures to reduce heating and cooling costs. We have literally looked at every line item of the town budget and asked, 'How can we do it better for less?'

"I have also reduced the town's work force through attrition while at the same time improved productivity with the introduction of new computer technology. During my tenure, virtually every office in town hall has seen a reduction in staffing by attrition. When an employee leaves or retires, we ask, 'Is this position necessary or can we re-distribute the work to other positions?' The reduction in staff has not resulted in a reduction in services. In fact, through the hard work and dedication of our outstanding public employees, the level of services has actually improved.

"When I first was elected six years ago, computer technology was virtually absent from town hall. I have introduced new technology which has improved productivity and reduced costs. The new technology includes the following:

- new comprehensive computer information system for the town and schools including collections, general ledger, payroll, accounts payable, census, land management, etc.;



MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON says the town's purchase of Tuckahoe Turf Farm was a major victory for preserving open space in town. Johnson is pictured at Tuckahoe in a recent campaign picture.

- new document imaging software for the clerk's office;
- new public computer terminal access in the assessor's office;
- new geographic information system in the engineering department;
- new townwide personal computer network which allows for unprecedented information access and sharing; and
- new computer information system in the police department.

"I have tried to bring professionalism to our government and with the help of an outstanding management team and a truly dedicated group of town employees, Agawam has made tremendous strides in providing courteous and quality services.

"I have also tried to push for long overdue capital improvement projects such as the new fire headquarters on Main Street, school additions and renovations, a new DPW garage, and Senior Center and library expansion. A key factor in undertaking capital improvement projects is the financial condition of the town.

"Even despite the recent recession, Agawam is in excellent financial shape," Johnson said. "The town has made significant appropriations to the Stabilization Fund over the past two years. In a recent bond upgrade, Standard and Poors said, 'The rating upgrade on Agawam ... reflects strong financial management demonstrated by the ability to maintain a stable financial position during the recent economic recession. The upgrade also reflects a low debt burden and continued diversification of the local tax base.'"

"Moody's Investors Service recently said Agawam has, 'Stable financial operations and maintenance of adequate liquidity, which provides some operating flexibility.'"

"I have tried to be fiscally conservative in my management of the town's financial affairs. The town's financial picture is much brighter than it was six years ago, and I believe we are positioned for even a brighter future. I pledge to continue to improve the quality of services we provide while maintaining the affordability that we all enjoy," concluded Johnson.



JOSEPH F. LANGONE

Candidate Langone Says Council Has Failed To Deliver

In a press release issued this week, Council candidate Joseph F. Langone elaborated his position regarding the City Council as a "public utility" with the responsibility of delivering a high quality of service to the citizens of Agawam.

Langone stated, "We have heard a lot of talk on the part of many candidates recently and, invariably, many go to great pains to make mention of the 'high quality of services' they believe exist in our town. All the while, however, they fail to remember that the City Council ITSELF, much the same as our DPW or fire/police departments, is a 'public utility' which has the responsibility of delivering that same high quality of services to the citizens to whom it is accountable. It is my contention that the incumbent Council has failed our community woefully in this regard."

Langone is a 1989 honors graduate of Assumption College and an adult education instructor at the Massachusetts Career Development Institute. He emphasized, "My education and work experience have provided me a privileged position in which to examine the effects that both diversity and unity can exert upon a group of people. Diversity, whether of personalities or opinions, need not be negative if dialogue is accomplished in a sincere, professional, and respectful manner.

"As I just stated, the incumbent Council has failed to deliver a high quality of service to the very people who elected it. The Council has done so by its lack of regard for the diverse array of opinions held by the members of our community, as well as by its own internal disarray. This has constituted nothing less than the ultimate form of embarrassment for Agawam, something which must neither be ignored nor excused."

Langone added, "Over the course of the last several months, I have had the opportunity to feel the pulse of our community by discussing the issues with several of the voters. Our people are disgusted with their perception of the Council as a bickering, backbiting collection of individuals who, by their actions and ineffectual leadership, have torn at the very fabric of our community and have chipped away at Agawam's community sense of pride and accomplishment."

Langone concluded, "I respectfully ask the voters to provide me with the opportunity to help them restore unity, pride, professionalism, and respect to our municipal assembly by casting one of their 11 votes for me in the November 7th general election."

VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH:

If you like the way your town is being run, then reaffirm your faith in your incumbent officials by casting your vote on their behalf. If you wish a change, then vote for a newcomer.



Kasparian

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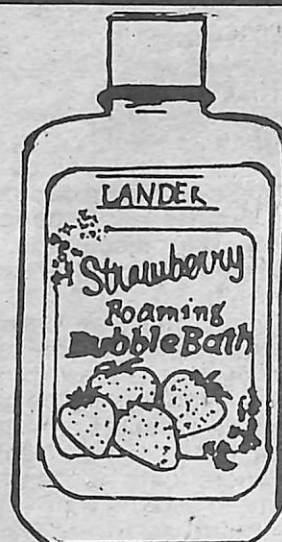
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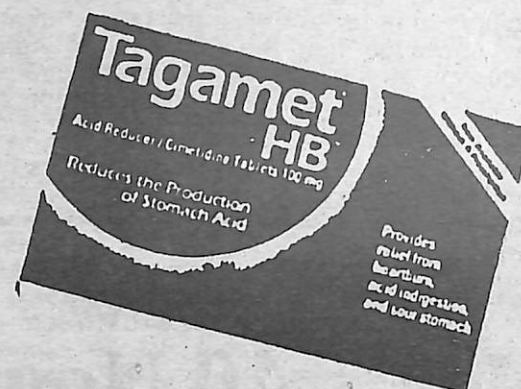


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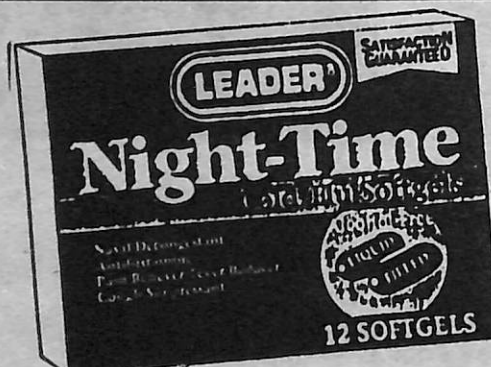


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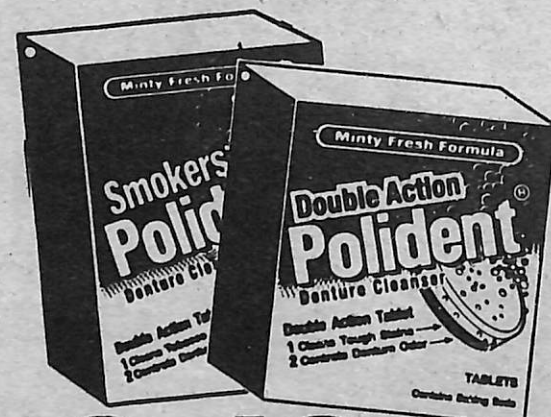
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Campaign '95 - continued...

Precinct Ambassadors Can Bring Issues Closer To People: Kasparian

"Here in Agawam, we have 11 councilors and seven precincts. All 11 councilors represent all of the precincts but not any represent one precinct. This may result in having a council made up of several councilors who live in the same precinct and the possibility of several precincts in which no councilors live," said Abe Kasparian, candidate for Town Council.

"This form of council has the benefit that the individual councilors are not fighting for the issues of their own precinct over the interests of the town as a whole. However, there develops the potential problem that there may be areas in town where the issues and concerns of the residents are not well known and therefore, not brought before the council.

"My goal is to help alleviate this potential problem is to get as much information and communication from the residents in all the precincts to the council in an organized systematic fashion. One possible way to do this is to set up a system of "Precinct Ambassadors."

"Precinct ambassadors would be made up from concerned citizens from the individual neighborhoods in a precinct who could meet periodically with their neighbors, perhaps over coffee or tea, to discuss the particular concerns of their areas. These neighborhood groups would then have their "ambassador" bring those concerns to the Council for discussion. In this way, no areas or residents would be left without a link to the Council.

"The more input that we have from our residents, the better we will be able to understand the complexity of the issues in a particular neighborhood that might otherwise go unnoticed. These issues may be a dispute on land usage with a neighbor in Precinct 6 or a traffic safety problem in Precinct 3 where cars are cutting through business property to avoid a traffic light.

"What I have heard as I have walked door-to-door, house-to-house, and business-to-business talking to people and installing my signs is that many of the people in our town feel disappointed that they don't have the "ear" of our town government. It is through a system of ambassadors that issues like those mentioned above and others can be brought to the floor of the council for investigation if the people cannot find satisfaction through other departments within our town government.

"The new council, starting in 1996, must take a position to create ambassadorships in the precincts in order to utilize the talent, creativity, and knowledge that the residents of Agawam possess to strengthen the role of the council as an open, honest, and fair representation of its constituents," concluded Kasparian.

Best local news...

Holy Cow Joe's 40 Now



Love
Peg and Joey

Supporters Rally For Stieg Campaign



CAMPAIGN SUPPORTERS rallied at the headquarters of Mayor candidate Karl Stieg to plan last minute details and the last minute campaign push this weekend. **PHOTO BELOW:** From left - Denis Surprenant, Charles Ghedi, Stieg, and Richie Ziemba. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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Campaign '95 - continued...

Educating Our Children Top Priority Of Town: Johnson

"I strongly believe that the most important function of our local government is the education of our children. Over the past six years, I have always made the education of our children my top priority," said Mayor Christopher C. Johnson in a campaign statement.

"I am a product of the Agawam Public Schools and a graduate of Agawam High School. When I went on to college and law school, I realized the quality of the education that I received in Agawam. As I faced new academic challenges, I knew that I had a strong educational base upon which to build.

"During my tenure, I have worked hard to improve the Agawam Public Schools and the following are some of my accomplishments over the past six years:

- "INCREASED spending for our schools by over \$20.9 million as compared with level funding while the State CUT local aid to the town by over \$11.1 million during the same period - the Town of Agawam spends well in excess of the Net School Spending required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the school budget increase in FY 1996 was over \$1.18 million);

- "PREPARED design and construction plans and RECEIVED state and local funding approval for additions and renovations to our four elementary schools and the high school - these additions will increase capacity in our schools by over 700 students and add new library/media centers at the elementary schools;

- "BUILT the new Early Childhood Center at Perry Lane Park;

- "SYSTEM-wide K-12 curriculum revision to better define and coordinate our curricula and bring it in line with new state curriculum frameworks;

- "INTRODUCED SAT Preparation course for high school students which produced results (in the first year, the average student taking the course increased their SAT score by 12 percent or 93 points);

- "SPONSORED local acceptance of the state legislation creating the Instructional Materials Trust Fund and recommended appropriations of over \$120,000 to the fund;

- "RECIPIENT of the Friend of Education Award from the Agawam Education Association; and

- "ATTRACTED the Federal HeadStart Pre-School Educational and Family Literacy Program which now operates out of the former Center Library.

"As our schools continue with the implementation of the state Education Reform Law, there will be many changes such as heterogeneous grouping, time in learning, and new performance standards. I strongly believe that our schools need to better prepare for those changes. As Chairperson of the School Committee, I would propose the following as a framework for improving our schools:

- (1) "The introduction of the team management process to bring more unity and provide a focus of direction within our system. Every member of our school community, including parents, teachers, students, school committee members, and the community as a whole must forge a partnership to provide the best education possible for our children.

- (2) "Working as a team, our school system must establish organizational values and develop a vision statement which provides a clear understanding of our intended purpose. The organizational values and the vision statement must come from within the school system and within the community and they must be embraced at every level of the organization. Each school must then set mission statements which should contain individual road maps for their site based management teams.

- (3) "Through the establishment of work groups, the system in coordination with the community must develop a reasonable and measurable set of goals and objectives. These goals and objectives must be formed with input from all levels of the organization and they must have community-wide support.

- (4) "The above outlined process of setting organizational values, adopting a vision statement, setting mission statements, and developing goals and objectives should include community, parental, teacher, and student surveys to account for the diversity of opinion present within our community and our school system.

- (5) "This process should commence in January and be the basis of the 'road map' that is given to the next Superintendent of Schools as a guide for his/her future educational leadership.

"Hopefully, through the implementation of the team management process in our schools, everyone will realize that we all share responsibility for improving our schools, and we must work together to bring about positive change. Some other areas which should be specifically addressed are revision of the school budgetary process to include more participation and control by the School Councils, statewide special education reform to bring Massachusetts in line with national standards, and changes in our vocational education policy to reduce expenditures.

"Our children will be competing in a global economy, and we must make every effort to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to insure their future success. I pledge to continue my support of education in Agawam, and to continue my efforts to provide the best possible education to all of Agawam's children," concluded Johnson.



ABE KASPARIAN

Kasparian Wants More Support For Business

"I was pleased to read in *The Agawam Advertiser News* last week that the Mayor and many of those also running for Council recognize the importance of bringing new business to our town," said Abe Kasparian, candidate for Town-Council. "I have worked for 10 years as a member of the Agawam Industrial Financial Development Authority and three years as a member of the new WestMass Area Development Corporation to attract and establish responsible business and light industry into the Agawam Regional Industrial Park.

"However, it is not enough to just bring new business and industry into our town; once here, we must support them.

"Individuals often feel that they can't make a difference in the community unless they are active in politics or in other groups. I'd like to assure you that each one of us can make a difference in helping to make Agawam stronger by supporting the businesses and industries that have chosen to locate in our town.

"Everyone needs to buy food, clothes, have their cars fixed, and purchase other goods and services. There are a great many businesses in Agawam that are capable of meeting these needs. Next time you are in need of goods or services, be it a haircut, a dinner out with the family, or just your weekly grocery shopping, 'think Agawam' and choose a business located in our town. Your patronage of our local businesses will help strengthen our economy, stabilize our tax base, and assure jobs for our residents," concluded Kasparian.



MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON, chairman of the Agawam School Committee, participates each year in the Read Aloud Program at Robinson Park School.

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Kasparian

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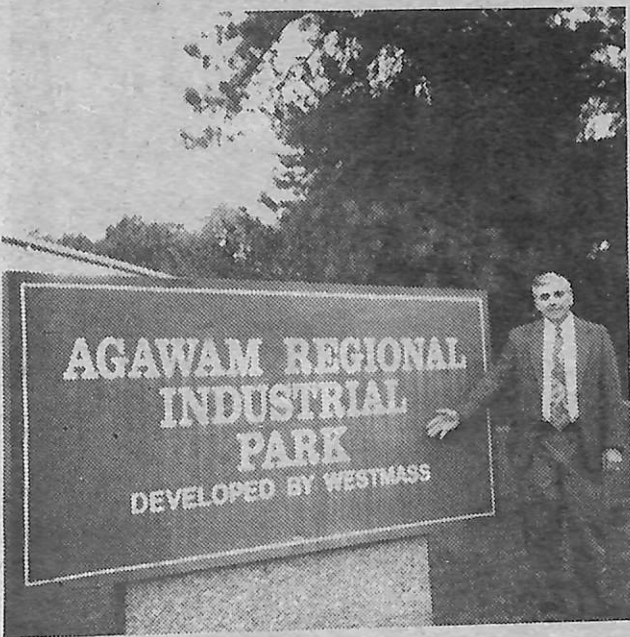
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Campaign '95 - continued...



ABE KASPARIAN is board member of the WestMass Corporation, developers of the Agawam Regional Industrial Park.

Kasparian Participates In Success Of Our Agawam I-Park

In a recent campaign statement, Town Council candidate Abe Kasparian stated that as a board member of the new WestMass Corporation, he has been instrumental in the reorganization of WestMass as a non-profit organization and bringing nine new businesses in the last two years and over 1,000 jobs to the Agawam Regional Industrial Park.

Kasparian invites you to take a ride through the Park, located at the site of the old Bowles Airport, and see the variety of light industries that have located here and how well they fit in with the beauty and character of our town.

His goal is to continue to attract this type of industry to our town to help stabilize our tax base and provide jobs for our residents.

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Stieg Says He Has Experience, Talent To Be Mayor

"In life, you sometimes find yourself doing things that you never imagined that you'd do," said Karl Stieg, candidate for mayor, in a campaign statement.

"Running for the office of Mayor of Agawam is one of those things. I, like many others, was first attracted to this town by its rural charm and the high quality of life that it offered for my entire family. In 1987, my wife, Judy, and I chose Agawam over many other communities to settle in and to raise our family.

"Since then, we have quietly gone about the tasks of making a living and raising our children. We loved this town so much that we stayed here even when I was transferred to Albany, New York. I commuted almost 200 miles each day so that my family could continue to live in this fine community. Working six nights a week and commuting that distance left me little time for anything other than my family. Eventually, Conrail asked me to move again and I declined. Since then I have had the time to carefully observe the town and its political follies.

"In watching this town and its political process during the past few months, I have become increasingly concerned about the callous and abrasive way that our leaders were treating those they were elected to serve. In particular, I was disturbed by the Mayor's refusal to consider the concerns of the residents of my neighborhood about the proposed power plant. He was unquestionably catering to outside concerns while ignoring his own constituents.

"I entered this race because I know that I can make a difference. I have been a manager in the Conrail Systems for 23 years. I have been a part of a multibillion dollar corporate structure. I have managed my company's interests from Buffalo to Boston and from New York to Canada.

"I know from first-hand experience how to manage a large business. I have dealt with labor unions and their issues from both sides of the fence. I am a 25-year member of the Transportation and Communication Workers Union. I have served as chairman of the local lodge as well as serving as the union's chief legislative representative to the Connecticut state legislature.

"On the management side, I have supervised the Customer Operations Center for Conrail in



KARL STIEG

Albany which was responsible for overseeing all of Conrail's customers in the Northeast. I supervised approximately 200 employees and oversaw the efficient processing of hundreds of millions of dollars of cargo daily. I know that I can bring these same business skills to the mayor's office. I can bring efficiency and accountability to Town Hall.

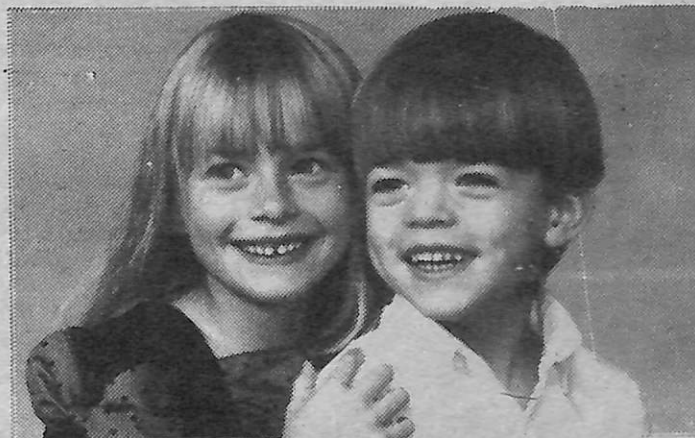
"My wife, Judy, and I have enjoyed our life here in Agawam. I have become involved with the Sacred Heart Athletic Association as a board member and a coach of both in-town and suburban softball. My 12 year-old daughter, Elizabeth, has become a part of this town.

"She loves the athletic programs and is currently a student at the Agawam Junior High School. For the past three years, she has been the manager/ball girl for the A.I.C. women's basketball team. She keeps me young and it is concern about her future that, in part, led me into the mayoral race.

"My son, Scott, is 21 and lives on his own in Warren, MA. Judy and I have invested our lives and our fortunes into this community. We wish for nothing else but for it to grow and prosper while maintaining its quality of life and small town character which originally attracted us here to Agawam," concluded Stieg.

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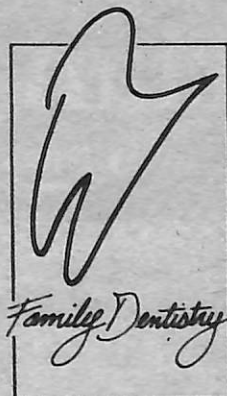
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Campaign '95 - continued...

Jill Simpson Seeks Another Term

"My name is Jill Simpson and I am running for reelection to the Agawam Town Council. The last two years have been both rewarding and frustrating for me.

"I am happy to have met many people who care deeply about the Town of Agawam and its future. While we have not always been on the same side of an issue, I have always listened with an open mind and respected other people's opinions. For the most part, I have received the same treatment in return," said Mrs. Simpson.

"I have been and will continue to be both accessible and responsive to your problems, concerns, and questions, whether it involves fighting to have a dead tree removed from a citizen's tree belt, getting a long missing street sign replaced, or just directing a constituent to the right source for information. No problem is too small if it is affecting a resident's quality of life.

"I am pleased to have been a member of the council which approved the purchase of Agawam Country Club. By doing this, we have maintained a large parcel of open space for our children, while creating a self-sustaining enterprise which adds to the quality of life in Agawam.

"We have also approved funding for land acquisition and construction of a new fire station which has been sorely needed for a long time.

"I will support the Mayor in his efforts to locate and build a new DPW garage. Our DPW workers deserve better than the deplorable conditions in which they now reside," said Mrs. Simpson.

"As chairperson of the Council's School Budget Sub-Committee, I was frustrated by the school budget review and approval process. The process itself did not allow time for proper review and discussion of specific line items. In addition, funding priorities seemed to change on a daily basis depending on which special interest was yelling the loudest. I will work to improve communication between the Council and School Committee so that we can work together to assume that the best interests are served for all the students in the Agawam School System.

"While I believe that the incumbent council has a number of accomplishments to be proud of, I am very disappointed at the behavior demonstrated by some of my colleagues. I am referring to the unprofessional and even unethical behavior witnessed during discussions of the ballot question pertaining to the proposed power plant, and the authorization of emergency funding for the school budget in fiscal year '95.

"I believe that spirited debate is healthy and helps to identify valid arguments for both sides of an issue. However, when a person's integrity and honesty are challenged on the basis of groundless rumors, then something is terribly wrong," said Mrs. Simpson.

"I don't expect councilors to be best friends, but I do expect them to act like colleagues, by listening to opposing viewpoints with an open mind, and respect each other's opinions. To serve our town properly, we need to listen to our constituents and work together to achieve the common good.

"In closing, I pledge to continue my efforts to preserve open space, to rewrite zoning laws to prevent development that threatens our quality of life, I will work with our School Committee to make our school system the best it can be. And finally, I pledge to be there when you need me.

"Thank you for your vote on November 7th," concluded Mrs. Simpson.



TOWN COUNCILOR GEORGE BITZAS reads aloud to students at James Clark Elementary School.

Bitzas Pledges To Continue Support Of Children's Education

"In my past six years as your City Councilor," stated City Councilor George Bitzas in a campaign press release issued this week, "I have always been a strong supporter of our children's education. As an educator myself, with experience in junior and senior high school, I know first-hand the needs of our school.

"I have visited our schools many times, reading to classes, making presentations, and talking to staff members. Our school system, like any other system, has some problems, but we should stand together—teachers, parents, and administrators—to work for the welfare of our children. Together, we will find the right solutions.

"We shouldn't play political football with our children's education, with their future. We must work in harmony and openness to meet the needs of our students. Money alone will not solve our problems, but money is needed to insure that our children will have the 'things' they need to prepare them for the next century.

"Our teachers are very knowledgeable professionals and they care about our school system. We need to listen to their concerns and their advice. They are working for our children.

"It is our duty as elected officials to provide the best possible education for the children in our town. Our hard-earned tax dollars will be well-invested in our children's education.

"As your City Councilor, I ask for your support so that I may continue to work for our children and our school system," concluded Bitzas.

Stieg Discusses His "Vision" For The Town Of Agawam

In a campaign statement released this week, Mayoral candidate Karl Stieg remarked, "It seems to me that all important elections eventually boil down to each candidate's vision. This year's race for mayor of Agawam is no different.

"My opponent, the gentleman who has served as mayor for more than six years, claims to have a vision for this community, but I have yet to see it. If we were to review his record, we see a man driven to build and to acquire. We see a man who is willing to let our schools and our educational system deteriorate to the point that we have a real crisis.

"We see a man who thinks that it is a priority to have an irrigation system at his golf course but not a priority to have up-to-date textbooks in our schools. We see a man who is willing to sell-out the character of this community to a massive, heavy industrial polluter. We see a man who claims to be unaware that vital health inspections were not being done. We see a man who is willing to conduct the town's business behind closed doors. We see a man who is so insulated with 'yes men' that he is out of touch with the current state of the Town.

"I have a clear and abiding vision of what Agawam is and could become. My vision is similar to many of yours. I came to Agawam with my wife and children because I felt that it would be a good place to raise a family. I love this town and care very deeply about it. I want to make it a better place. I believe that many of the problems and controversies that are currently dividing Agawam could have been avoided if we had agreed upon a shared vision for our town.

"The Stieg vision begins with our children; after all, they are our future. I believe that we have a responsibility to each child in this community to guarantee them a high-quality education. We have a responsibility to provide our schools with the tools and equipment necessary to assure a top-notch school system.

"We must win back the trust of parents and taxpayers in Agawam by insisting that every student in our system be properly challenged and prepared for the future. We can no longer tolerate an administration that doesn't have education as its top priority.

"The second part of my vision for Agawam involves the quality of life in Agawam. Although we all found our way to Agawam at different times and for different reasons, in some way we all came here because we liked the clean, quiet, suburban/rural nature of this town.

"We all came here because we like open fields and quiet streets in safe neighborhoods. We all came here to escape the urban blight and problems that Springfield and other cities have been experiencing. We came here because of the character of Agawam.

"The character of this community is currently under attack, and we all should do what we can to preserve the small-town nature of Agawam. It would certainly be nice to collect \$800,000 from a business in town, but not at the expense of our quality of life. We must state unequivocally that while we encourage business and light industry, we will not jeopardize or sell-out the character of

SEE STIEG - Page 28...

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* I.D. & First Orientation Not Included

Campaign '95 - continued...**STIEG - from Page 27...**

this community by allowing massive, unsightly, and dangerous businesses to buy their way into our town.

"My vision is certainly not anti-business, but my priority is to protect the residential base of Agawam by preserving our property values and small-town feel. Massive power plants and huge shopping centers have no place here. I envision a town in which the view out your window is of fields of corn or unspoiled woodlands, not of belching smokestacks or long traffic jams. Twenty years from now, I'd like to see this town remain a quiet, suburban bedroom community. I fear we are now on the path to becoming a modern-day mill town.

"The other key element of the Stieg vision is the protection of and respect for our elderly citizens. This is not some nameless, faceless group. These are our parents and friends who have contributed greatly to this community. We must honor and respect those contributions and assure our elders of our continued support. I have advocated a program to freeze the property taxes of citizens over 65. I believe that we should free the senior population of the ravaging effects of increasing costs while living on a fixed income.

"I believe that our senior center should be expanded as quickly as possible, and the leadership of that center should be highly qualified individuals who work hard to improve the lives of our parents and friends. The senior center should not be the haven of political patronage; it should be the hub of activity and support for our older friends.

"My vision is in some way summarized by my campaign colors. The yellow symbolizes the sunshine that I would like to bring into our town's government. The blue represents the blue sky that I would like to bring back to the future of Agawam. I see a bright future ahead, and together we can make it even better," concluded Stieg.

VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH:

If you like the way your town is being run, then reaffirm your faith in your incumbent officials by casting your vote on their behalf. If you wish a change, then vote for a newcomer. Either way, your participation at the ballot box makes our community a much better place!

Sweet Sixteen Stef

Love,
Mom, Dad, Jen & Mike

**KENT SERVIS****Tough Business Times Must Be Addressed By Govt. Says Servis**

"Today in Agawam, the issue of business failing to prosper must be addressed by our government," said Council candidate Kent Servis in a campaign statement.

"To its credit, the present administration has brought new industry into our industrial park.

"This is a step in the right direction. Homeowners and small business owners need relief from the taxation that is necessary to keep the town running. There is really only one way to do this. We must continue our quest to bring community compatible industries into our industrial parks.

"Unfortunately, we have not had the same success in keeping small business alive here in town. As urban sprawl continues to move closer to our borders, we must be mindful of the many small, family-owned businesses and merchants that have been the stalwart of our local economy, and not be seduced by the "Bigger Is Best" mentality," concluded Servis.



COUNCIL CANDIDATE ABE KASPARIAN discusses issues with Dave & Loren Wolff of Vassar Road during his door-to-door campaign.

Door Knocking Shows Townspeople Looking For Change: Kasparian

"Over the last couple of weeks, I have been going door-to-door throughout our neighborhoods during my first run for public office, in an effort to speak personally with as many residents as possible," said Abe Kasparian, candidate for Town Council.

"The friendly and warm greetings and encouragement that I have received from the residents personifies the true spirit of living in our town. Although the walking from door-to-door is very tiring, the people with whom I have spoken have been a source of inspiration to keep going. They are concerned, dedicated, knowledgeable, and hardworking individuals and it is through their friendly encouragement that I will continue to go door-to-door," said Kasparian.

"During my walks through Agawam on these pleasant autumn days and nights, I was struck again and again with how truly lovely our neighborhoods are as are the people who make them up. I'd like to thank all of you who have taken the time to speak with me at your home or at local businesses, and for sharing your views with me. If I haven't met you yet, I hope that I will meet you in the near future as I continue my journey through the neighborhoods.

"I know I don't need to tell you how important it is to take an active part in your government by getting out and voting on November 7th. See you at the polls," concluded Kasparian.

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Campaign '95 - continued...

Candidate Russo Lists His Accomplishments As A City Councilor

In a campaign statement issued this week, City Council candidate Louis J. Russo said, "Many candidates speak of their accomplishments and how well they have served the citizens of Agawam. Some of them truly care about Agawam and have excellent records of public service. Some day, I hope others include me with those caring individuals."

"For now, the people of Agawam must judge our records of previous elected public service and our future hopes for Agawam. I ask that the voters consider my following accomplishments:

- * Unparalleled record of providing constituent service.
- * Consistently supported fully funded education.
- * Fought for full-time school nurses.
- * Supported restructuring the Industrial Park.
- * Voted against all tax increases for homes and businesses.
- * Fought for taxpayer protection against improper assessments.
- * Fought for protection of small business owners.
- * Sponsored the adoption of the 'Citizen's Consensus.'
- * Sponsored the 'Taxpayer's Bill of Rights.'
- * Sponsored veterans' organizations' exemptions.
- * Sponsored protection for elderly nursing home patients.
- * Sponsored health and safety protection for residents.
- * Sponsored zoning changes to protect Agawam's town character.
- * Fought for yard waste program.
- * Supported Tuckahoe Turf and the Golf Course.
- * Sponsored the protection of businesses and homeowners against unnecessary backflow valve cost and fees.

"Having stated my accomplishments, I would like to state my future hopes for Agawam and what I will do to see those hopes a reality:

- * Will fight for a stronger and better educational system.
- * Will insure tax stabilization through legitimate budget cuts.
- * Will consider the growth of light industry industrial parks.
- * Will consider a new cost-effective senior center.
- * Will protect the character of our community.
- * Will support year-round recreation at Tuckahoe and Country Club.
- * Will insist on better checks and balances in government.
- * Will provide for an elected Charter Review Commission.
- * Will be a Councilor that truly represents the people.
- * Will hopefully be part of a town government that really cares.

"If the people are pleased with what I have done in the past, and have the same hopes as I have for the future of Agawam, I hope they will vote for good, caring government by pulling Lever 10A," concluded Russo.



COUNCILOR GEORGE BITZAS

Bitzas Strives For Improvement In Town's Services

"During my tenure as your Town Councilor, I have worked hard to improve the town services," said George Bitzas in a campaign statement released this week. "I have worked to bring good business and industry to our community to help broaden our tax base and take some of the burden off of the taxpayers."

"Last month," he continued, "when two councilors asked to increase the tax rate, I spoke strongly against it and encouraged the full Council not to support such a move. I was happy when the large majority agreed with me and the amendment failed to pass."

"As a homeowner, I believe we pay enough and we should not have to pay more. Fortunately, we did not have to override Proposition 2½, like many other communities, in order to pay for services. We do not anticipate doing this in the future."

"As your Councilor, I will do my best to keep our taxes as low as possible and manage our tax dollars with responsibility and care," concluded Bitzas.

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Boneless London Broil	\$1.99 Lb.
Boneless Top Blade Steak	\$1.99 Lb.
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Boneless Rib Eye Steak	\$4.99 Lb.
Boneless Club Steak	\$5.29 Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Breast	
Whole	\$1.29 Lb.
Split	\$1.49 Lb.
Sweet Life Daisy Roll	\$1.69 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.79 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.59 Lb.

WHOLESALE MEATS (Cut & Freezer Wrapped - No Extra Charge)

Whole Boneless Shoulder Clods	\$1.39 Lb.
Whole Boneless Rib Eyes	\$3.69 Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloins	\$4.49 Lb.

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY SPECIAL

Carolina Ground Turkey	69¢ Lb.
------------------------	---------

DELI

Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	\$2.89 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.19 Lb.
Russer Pear Shape Domestic Ham	\$2.99 Lb.
Hudson Deluxe Turkey Breast	\$1.99 Lb.
Hudson Turkey Pastromi	\$1.99 Lb.
Russer Gourmet Hot Ham	\$2.99 Lb.

DAIRY

Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$1.99
Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (½ Gallon)	\$1.09

SEAFOOD

Scrod Fillet	\$2.99 Lb.
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PRODUCE

Fresh Broccoli (Bunch)	99¢
Canadian Carrots (1 Lb. Bag)	39¢
Bananas	39¢ Lb.
McIntosh & Cortland Apples (3 Lb. Bag)	\$1.19

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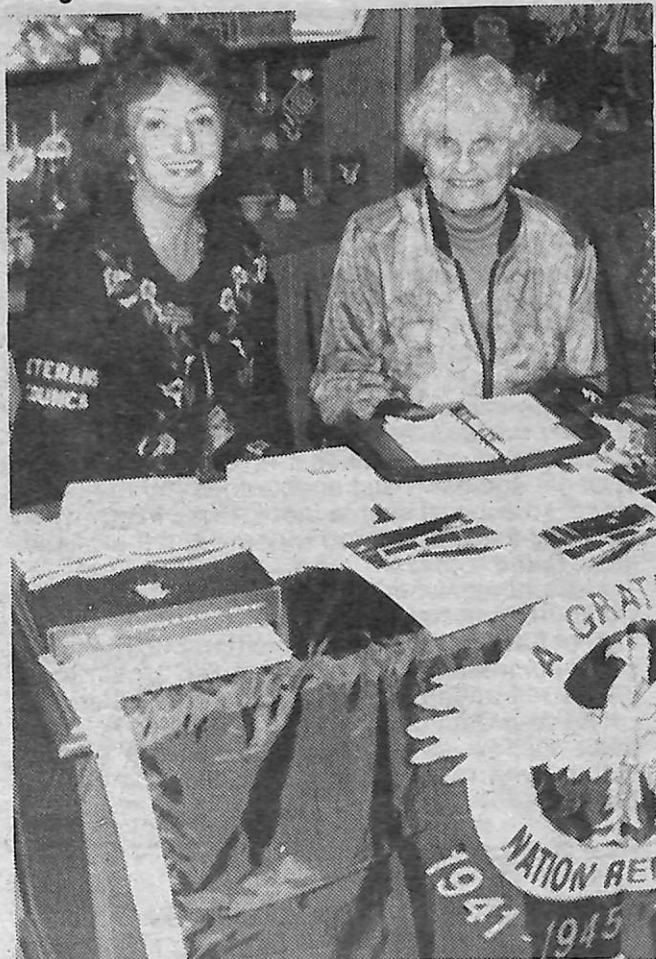
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VETERANS' AGENT Ruth Bitzas and Veterans' Council member Jessie D. Fuller are hoping for a big crowd at the November 11th Veterans' Day luncheon at the VFW. Advertiser

News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam VFW Plans Vets' Day Lunch

Tired of the usual take-out dinner? Join us at the Agawam V.F.W. on Saturday, November 11th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. to celebrate Veterans Day!

Creative catering will be provided by Rosemary and the Agawam V.F.W. Post 1632 will present a "Saturday Night Buffet Table." A pot roast dinner (real home-style cooking) will be served. Advanced tickets are \$6 and \$6.95 at the door. Proceeds will benefit the homeless shelter at Leeds Hospital.

For more information, call the Agawam V.F.W. Post 1632, 194 South Street, Agawam, (413) 786-4885.

Stimulation Of State Manufacturing Business Priority Of Melconian's Senate Committee

Senator Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield), Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Science and Technology, recently issued a policy statement from her Committee recommending that the Legislature enact bills to stimulate manufacturing in Massachusetts.

Policy changes endorsed by the Committee would improve the Commonwealth's business climate by reducing the cost of doing business in Massachusetts. The Committee voiced unanimous support for the single sales factor apportionment formula for the manufacturing companies.

"I applaud the work of the various joint committees that have also diligently grappled with these issues during the past year. But the time has come for swift and decisive action. The November 15th deadline for formal legislative action in 1995 is fast approaching," stated Senator Melconian. The Senate Committee on Science and Technology has forwarded its recommendations to the Joint Committees on Taxation, Commerce and Labor, Energy, and Government Regulations and urged the Senate Chairs to move forward expeditiously on bills that will stimulate manufacturing.

By focusing on the manufacturing sector, the Senate Committee on Science and Technology hopes to reverse the economic downturn during the past decade - 225,000 manufacturing jobs lost since 1984. This erosion of the state's manufacturing base has directly resulted in the loss of \$9 billion in employee salaries and close to \$400 million in personal income tax revenues.

Senator Melconian stated, "Maintaining the economic status quo in this state is unacceptable. We must improve the business climate or face the risk of seeing more jobs leave the state. The only affordable and fiscally responsible solution is to phase-in incentives targeting the engine that drives our economy—manufacturing. Each manufacturing job supports three jobs in the economy and most provide high wages and benefits, such as health insurance."

Massachusetts' business climate has historically served as an obstacle to economic growth. A recent study by the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation found that Massachusetts ranks among the top 10 most expensive states in

five key business costs - health care, unemployment insurance, electricity, manufacturing wages, and corporate income taxes.

Massachusetts is losing ground to lower cost states such as North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky, which all rank among the top 10 states in attracting new manufacturing plants. In stark contrast, Massachusetts ranked 40th, with only three manufacturing plants built in the state in 1994. Ohio, by comparison, led the nation with 229 new manufacturing plants.

"While we cannot and should not get into a bidding war to lure companies into the state, we can level the playing field. By reducing the disincentives to locate or expand here, Massachusetts can capitalize on its numerous advantages — universities that produce an abundant supply of highly skilled workers, a high quality of life, clusters of technological expertise, networks of specialized suppliers, and a vibrant venture capital market.

"Unless the business climate improves, Massachusetts will not be able to compete for the best jobs of the 21st Century. The new reality is that a company can conduct R&D in Massachusetts and build its product in Arizona," added Melconian.

Recommendations of the Senate Committee on Science and Technology include:

- * A single sales factor apportionment formula for manufacturers that calculates the tax burden for companies doing business in Massachusetts solely on the basis of in-state sales.

- * Making the 3 percent investment tax credit permanent.

- * Revamping the current R&D tax credit, which penalizes Massachusetts defense contractors for the decline in federal defense spending.

- * Sales tax exemptions for energy used by manufacturers in research and development facilities and pollution control equipment used in the manufacturing process.

- * Creating a commission to study methods to contain workers' compensation costs and reduce fraud.

- * Reducing unemployment insurance contribution rates for employers in 1996.

- * Incentives to encourage defense conversion.

- * Guidelines to ensure that increased competition in the electric utility industry occurs in a timely, fair, and equitable manner.

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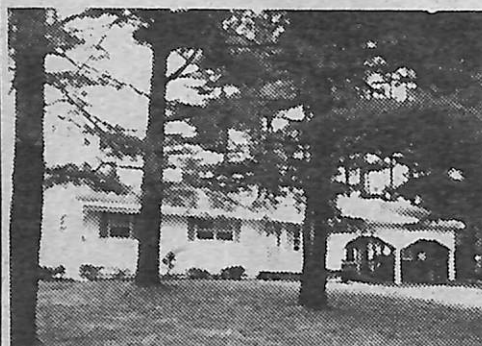
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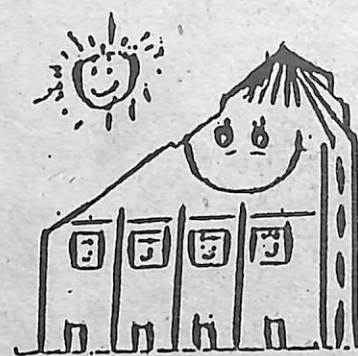
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185/70R14	\$66.99	205/70R14	79.99
185/60R14	79.99	205/70R15	82.99
185/65R14	82.99	215/70R14	84.99
195/65R14	84.99	215/70R15	87.99
195/60R14	85.99	205/55R16	120.99
195/65R15	86.99	215/60R16	110.99
195/60R15	89.99	225/60R16	111.99
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P185/75R14	51.99	P235/70R15	76.99
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\$19.99

All Season, Steel Belled Whitewall	Price
P175/80R13	\$30.99
P185/75R14	32.99
P195/75R14	33.99
P205/75R14	35.99
P205/75R15	36.99
P215/75R15	38.99
P235/75R15	41.99
35,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY	

IMPORT

\$32.99

Flow Through Tread Groups	Price
P155R12	\$33.99
155R13	35.99
165R13	35.99
175/70R13	36.99
185/70R13	39.99
185/70R14	41.99
195/70R14	44.99
205/70R14	46.99
40,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY	

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All Season, S-Speed Rated White Letters	Price
P185/70R13	\$44.99
P185/70R14	48.99
P195/70R13	52.99
P195/70R14	54.99
P205/70R14	58.99
P215/60R14	57.99
P215/65R15	68.99
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AGAWAM DEMOCRATS honored long-time town Democrat Walter Balboni at Betty's Old Towne House on October 22nd. IN PHOTO LEFT (standing), Joanne Willis, breakfast committee chairwoman; Barbara Dunn, town committee chairwoman; John Balboni, Walter's son; Betty Maloney, niece; and Walter Balboni. IN PHOTO RIGHT pictured are John Balboni (son), Joanne Beltrandi, asst. director, Ag. Housing Authority; Robert Watson, Housing Authority chairman; Phyllis Mason, executive director, Housing Authority; and Walter Balboni. RELATED PHOTOS ON NEXT PAGE. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Walter Balboni, Raymond Charest Honored By Agawam's Democrats

The Agawam Democratic Committee recently honored two of its long-time members at its annual breakfast.

A crowd of 90 area Democrats, officials, and local candidates were on hand at Betty's Old Towne House to honor retiring Town Councilor Walter A. Balboni and the late Raymond E. Charest for their outstanding accomplishments in almost a century of public service between them to the Town of Agawam.

Councilor Balboni, who served 24 years on the Agawam School Committee and in numerous other public capacities in Agawam, was lauded for his selfless dedication to his community.

He received a U.S. flag flown over the United

States Capitol Building from U.S. Senator John F. Kerry, who was represented by Scott Letendre. Congressman Richard Neal personally bestowed a U.S. flag to Mr. Balboni. Councilor Balboni also received citations from State Sen. Linda J. Melconian and State Rep. Daniel F. Keenan. Bob Watson, Chairman of the Agawam Housing Authority, spoke warmly of his friendship with Councilor Balboni, dating from their days together on the Housing Authority. He presented the councilor with a certificate of appreciation.

The family of Ray Charest, who had served the town as selectman, planning board chairman, registrar of voters, and other municipal posts, received a U.S. flag from Congressman Neal, and citations from the General Court. Bob Watson

presented a certificate of appreciation and recognition to Ray's family to honor his service to the Agawam Housing Authority.

As keynote speaker, Sheriff Michael Ashe spoke movingly of the two honorees and their commitment to public service. He then outlined the programs at the Hampden County House of Corrections and his commitment to public service.

Also attending the event were Hampden County Register of Probate Thomas Moriarty, Mayor Christopher Johnson, Councilors Tommy Ennis, Edward Caba, George Bitzas, and Robert Danie and Town Clerk Richard Theroux. Teresa Kozloski, Roberta Doering, Linda Galarneau, and Susan Pettazzoni represented the Agawam School Committee.

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Elderly Housing Bill Has Keen Interest Of State. Rep. Keenan

Moving to ensure that the senior citizen population of the Commonwealth has access to safe and affordable housing, Representative Daniel F. Keenan and his colleagues in the Massachusetts Legislature have approved a comprehensive measure which addresses the issue of mixed populations in state-funded elderly housing developments.

"This legislation will serve to improve housing options for the state's seniors while still protecting the rights of handicapped individuals. Also, I am extremely pleased with our successful attempts to include numerous security precautions for our elderly residents living in these facilities," Keenan said.

According to the representative, once implemented, the plan grants seniors a preference in 86.5 percent of all available state public housing units for elderly residents. Prior to the Legislature's action, seniors did not receive preferential treatment when placement decisions were being made.

Cognizant of the growing safety concerns expressed by the state's seniors who reside in these developments, Rep. Keenan said he was determined to see the new law include provisions which will provide the appropriate protections. These safeguards involve establishing strict standards for admission as well as a streamlined eviction process to address tenants who pose a danger to the safety and well-being of other residents.

Other key components of the initiative include a \$4 million transitional rental assistance program for qualified handicapped persons, a service coordinators program to assist elderly and disabled tenants find and access appropriate housing, funds for a Massachusetts Housing Registry to list available units containing accessible features, and an appropriation to the Criminal History Systems Board to facilitate the screening process when qualifying applicants.

"Current demographic trends and prognostications indicate the rapid growth of the elderly segment of the population in proportion to our society as a whole. Given this reality, I believe it is important to enact proactive public policy measures, such as this housing legislation, that reflect a commitment to providing our seniors the necessary supports which will allow them a positive quality of life in their golden years," concluded Rep. Keenan.

VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOV. 7TH. *If you like the way your town is being run, then reaffirm your faith in your incumbent officials by casting your vote on their behalf. If you wish a change, then vote for a newcomer.*

Memory Of Raymond Charest Honored



MEMBERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE gathered on October 22nd at Olde Betty's Towne House to honor long-time party activist, the late Raymond E. Charest. **IN TOP PHOTO**, members of the Charest family were among the invited guests - Donald Charest (son), Lauretta Charest (Ray's wife), and Barbara Charest (daughter in-law). Standing are Barbara Dunn, committee chairwoman, and Joanne Willis, event chairwoman. **IN PHOTO BELOW**, some of the local Democrats who attended included, from left - Douglas Bodman, State Rep. Daniel F. Keenan, Town Councilor Thomas Ennis, Jr. (with his son, Tom, who was celebrating his first birthday), and Town Councilor Edward A. Caba. Advertiser

News photos by Jack Devine.



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Looking Back...

by David Gallano
Agawam Historian



October 1974

OCTOBER 30th - BOMB SCARE AS WESTMAN QUIZ GOES CALMLY

Town Manager James Westman stood up to a two-and-a-half hour grilling by Town Council members Tuesday night on his performance. Just minutes before the meeting, a bomb scare was called into police headquarters resulting in a 20-minute search of the Junior High School building.

A packed auditorium of citizens listened attentively and occasionally burst into applause on behalf of the manager and some councilors who attempted to seek specific answers. At no time was action taken to levy charges of non-performance against Westman.

Westman defended his policy of working perhaps slower and "at whatever speed, volume, and hours are needed" to fill a certain position or make a certain decision which he feels will be in the best interest of the town.

Westman conceded that there existed "disagreement" between himself and the police chief, but said he will make the final decision to start the study, with or without the chief's approval.

OCTOBER 31st - COMPUTERS FLUNK TOWN BUSING TEST

Both the town's students and administrators have learned that computers give improbable answers to improbably questions. They've learned that human intelligence is superior to artificial intelligence. The firm of L.K.B. Company of New York promised it could devise computerized bus schedules using only 16 buses in order to save the town up to \$30,000.

Dr. Robert M. Gardner, Superintendent of Schools, is dissatisfied with the redesigned routes. He knows now that it is impossible to deliver 5,273 students to their schools on time aboard 16 buses. He has given L.K.B. until Friday to prove otherwise.

By terms of its agreement with the Agawam public schools, L.K.B. has lost \$15,000, or half of its \$30,000 fee. Gardner said that after L.K.B. is dismissed Friday, school officials will tinker with the schedule which is "workable except for five minutes" or a five minute delay in the arrival of school buses at the Junior High School, Middle School, and a few of the elementary schools.

Regular Council Meeting Agenda For Wed., November 8th

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge Of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 9/18/95; Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 10/2/95; Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 10/16/95
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances
None.
7. Report of Council Committees
8. Elections
None.
9. Public Hearings
None.
10. Old Business
(a)
1. TO-95-43-Voucher List (\$19.20)
2. TO-95-44-Transfer of \$15,000.00 from Reserve Fund (11212-57300) to Law Department - Professional & Technical (11512-52190) (Mayor).
11. New Business
(a)
1. TO-95-45-Approval of Class I, II & III Dealer Licenses for 1996 (Coun. Bitzas).
2. TO-95-46-Application for video permit for Springfield Turnverein, 176 Garden St., FH, MA for three (3) coin operated machines.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, November 9, 1995 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to hear the petition of Green for work to be performed on South West Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission

Published: November 2, 1995

Fire Wise

by Fire Chief David Pisano Conventional Heater Safety In Your Home

So much has been said lately about the advantages and disadvantages of alternative heating sources (such as wood stoves) that the Agawam Fire Department would like to remind you of the following safety procedures to insure that your standard home heating system is properly maintained:

- Have a professional check and service your heating system every fall. They will look for possible worn-out parts, frayed wiring, and blocked heating ducts.

- Keep flammable material away from heat vents. Teach children not to touch these vents, as some vents can become very warm while the heating system is in use.

- Electric space heaters should be used only under adult supervision.

- When purchasing an electric space heater, look for a seal from a nationally recognized testing agency, such as Underwriters Laboratory (UL).

- Make sure that the electric cord is in good condition, not frayed.

- Regular household extension cords should not be used with an electric heater. The heaters draw too much electricity and will overload the cord.

- Never put a portable electric heater in a child's bedroom. In an attempt to get warm quickly, they may pull the heater too close to the bed, which could ignite the blankets on the bed.

For further information on this all-too-important topic, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

Check our classified pages every week
AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS!!!



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and his "Little
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Keenan Believes Welfare Reform Will Benefit Everyone

Citing recent statistics that there are five million AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) recipients in the United States and 92,000 families on welfare in Massachusetts, State Rep. Daniel F. Keenan believes that welfare reform will have a direct and beneficial effect upon the Commonwealth and upon those who have been mired in the state's welfare system.

The Welfare Reform Law, which was signed by Governor William Weld on February 10, 1995, went into effect this November 1st after receiving waivers from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The biggest change from the current system will be the new mandatory work requirements. There will be a 2.75 percent reduction in welfare payments for those deemed able to work but who do not. Adults receiving AFDC payments whose youngest child is of mandatory school age must find 20 hours of work per week within 60 days or perform community service for 20 hours per week.

This Welfare to Work Program contains enhancements for employment, disincentives for not working, and ultimately promotes work. "Citizens need to have a stake in society and in their community," said Rep. Keenan. "Work is an essential part of creating that stake and allowing recipients to become productive members of society."

Further provisions of the new Welfare Reform Law include a Family Cap provision, which stipulates that there will be no increase in payments for new children in families already receiving AFDC benefits. Children 20 and under, including teenage mothers, must be enrolled in high school or in a program leading to a high school diploma and must live with a responsible adult. There are now strong requirements to identify absentee parents, and these reports are submitted to the Department of Revenue.

The state's Department of Public Welfare has been renamed the Department of Transitional Assistance, and the change in name reflects the change in philosophy as to the mission of the department. As the word *transitional* suggests, welfare reform is designed to break the cycle of dependency and to allow people to become self-sufficient. The department recognizes the need not only to promote work, but also the need to invest in health care, child care, and employment assistance.

"This new program is a ray of hope for many families to escape the hopeless cycle of poverty," stated Rep. Keenan. "To do this, we must look beyond the welfare bureaucracy and actively promote the notion that it is essential for people to remain economically independent," he concluded.

ADVERTISER NEWS

- Two Winners Take All Over \$3,500 In Prize \$\$\$

Friday Bingo

Immaculate Conception Church

475 Main Street, West Springfield

Doors Open At 5:30 P.M.
W.T.A. 7:00 P.M.

For Information, Call 733-8747
Or Check At J & T's

Additional Parking—
Rear Of The Rectory

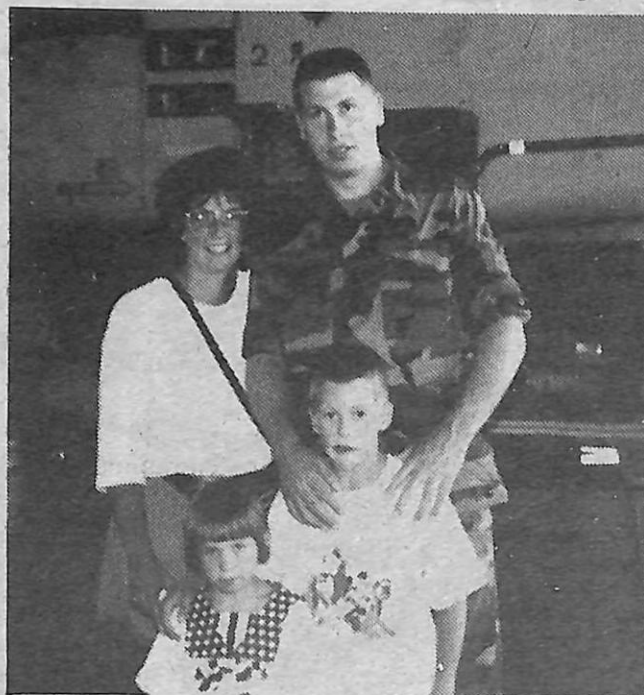
Tsgt. Styckiewicz Returns From Service In Italy On Oct. 14

The family of Tsgt. Michael Styckiewicz would like to wish him a very warm welcome home. Tsgt. Styckiewicz left for Aviano, Italy, late in August and arrived home on October 14th.

Michael is a survival equipment specialist in the 104th Fighter Wing for the Mass Air National Guard. He has been in the Air Guard for the past 14 years and was very anxious to put his everyday training to work in this peace-keeping mission.

Even though he was very busy in operation Deny Flight, he did get to see some of Italy. Michael's family—his wife Joanne and children Matthew and Alyssa—would like to say welcome home and how proud they are of him and all the members of the 104th.

A JOB WELL DONE!



TSGT. MICHAEL STYCKIEWICZ, a member of the 104th Fighter Wing for the Mass Air National Guard returned from service in Italy. He is pictured with his family, Joanne (wife) and children Matthew and Alyssa.

Aerobics Class To Be Offered By Parks Dept.

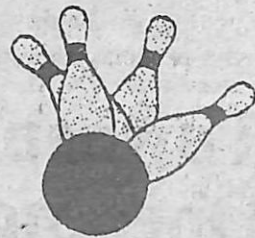
The Town of Agawam Parks & Recreation Department has announced that an Aerobics class will be offered on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday nights from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Agawam Middle School (small gym—enter building through right rear door).

Drop-ins are welcome. Cost is \$3 per night, payable to the instructor.

Check our classified every week - AAN!!!

Games And Lanes

350 Walnut Street Extension
Agawam



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Country Western Bowling

A Great Hee-Haw
Of A Time!

Every Saturday Night
Starting November 11th
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- Line Dancing Instructions
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Prizes —
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Every Friday Night
9:30 - 12:00

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- * Super Light And Fog Show
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- * 6 Tokens For A Dollar In Our Awesome Game Room

All This Fun For \$2.50 Per Game





JOSEPH YABLONSKI of the Mass. Highway Dept. and JOHN W. HOEY, MHD District director, say the bulldozers will be put away soon after the opening of Phase I of the Route 57 extension project on Friday, November 3rd, at 2:30 p.m. for this portion of the project. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Townpeople Invited To Opening Of Route 57

All residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills are invited to join with Lt. Governor A. Paul Celluci, Transportation Secretary James Kerasiotes, Massachusetts Highway Commissioner Laurinda T. Bedingfield, Chief Engineer Ross B. Dindio, District Highway Engineer John W. Hoey, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, State Senator Linda J. Melconian, State Representative Daniel F. Keenan, Council President Nancy Thompson, and Route 57 Chairperson Thomas J. Ennis, Jr. in the ribbon cutting to open Phase I of the Route 57 extension project.

The ribbon cutting is scheduled for FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd at 2:30 p.m., at the base of the Mill Street Overpass on Route 57.

Following the ribbon cutting, there will be a brief tour of the Agawam Regional Industrial Park and a reception with refreshments at the Agawam Senior Center on Wright Street.

Please join us in this long-awaited proud moment for our community.

Check our classified pages each week



GETTING READY FOR THE BIG opening of Phase I of the Route 57 extension project are local officials, from left - Town Councilor Thomas Ennis, Jr., council chairman of the Route 57 Committee; Daniel F. Keenan, state representative; Linda Melconian, state senator; and Christopher C. Johnson, mayor. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Families



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Debra Whitlock Weds Paul Decoteau At Oak Ridge Ceremony

Debra Whitlock & Paul Decoteau exchanged wedding vows on September 30th at Oak Ridge Country Club.

The bride is the daughter of Gerard & Rose Mary Whitlock of Agawam. The bridegroom is the son of Loretta & Edgar Decoteau, both of Springfield.

Mary Albano of Natick, Mass. attended the bride as maid-of-honor. Edward Foley of Springfield was best man.

The bride graduated from Agawam High School. She is business office manager at Internal Medical Assoc. of Agawam.

Her husband, a graduate of Cathedral High School in Springfield, is employed by W.F. Young, Inc. of Springfield.

Vecchiarelli Family Welcomes Birth Of Son, Michael R.

Dean and Michelle Vecchiarelli proudly announce the recent birth of their son, Michael Raymond Vecchiarelli.

The baby weighed seven pounds, 14 ounces, and measured 21 inches long.

Michael's maternal grandparents are Maxine and Ray Boileau of Chicopee. The paternal grandparents are Marie and Phil Vecchiarelli of Feeding Hills.

Spaghetti Dinner Slated At F. Hills American Legion

On Wednesday, November 8th, Wilson Thompson Post 185, Inc., the Feeding Hills Branch of the American Legion, will host a dinner at the Post.

The menu is spaghetti with meatballs or sausage, salad, and all the fixings. The money raised will be used for the Post's Child Welfare fund.

Tickets are \$3.75 for adults, \$3 for seniors and children under 12 years of age.

Give your wife or girlfriend a break from cooking and come on down for dinner. See you there!

F. Hills Community Grange 382 To Hold Annual Ziti Supper

Community Grange No. 382 of Feeding Hills will hold its annual Ziti Supper on Tuesday, November 14th, with continuous servings from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The Grange hall is located at 47 North West Street in Feeding Hills.

The menu will include ziti, meatballs, salad, Italian bread, homemade pastries, coffee, tea, and milk. The cost is \$5.50 for adults, and \$2.50 for children under 12 years of age.

Reservations can be made by calling 789-2061.

"Zoo On The Go" Seeks Volunteers

The Forest Park Zoological Society needs volunteers to assist with its Zoo On The Go program.

Parker Hodgman, President of the Society, noted, "We are delighted to have the largest number of requests ever to conduct our Zoo On The Go programs for area schools. In order to meet these increased requests, additional volunteers are needed."

Zoo On The Go brings education on our animal kingdom to young people. Several of the Zoo's smaller animals are brought into the classroom with the program. Volunteers are needed to both conduct the educational programs and to assist with the animals.

Hodgman noted that "Volunteers will be thoroughly trained before conducting the program. In addition, this is a wonderful opportunity for persons to make important educational contributions to children while relating to several of our animal species."

For further information and for a volunteer application, call the Zoo In Forest Park in Springfield at (413) 733-2251.

Country Estates Slates Holiday Fair For Dec.

Country Estates Skilled Nursing and Rehab Center, located at 1200 Suffield Street (Rte. 75), Agawam, is sponsoring its first annual Country Holiday Fair on Friday, December 1, 1995 and Saturday, December 2, 1995. This "not to be missed" event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on both days.

Besides crafted and baked items by the residents and busy elves at Country Estates, there will be items offered for sale by over a dozen local crafters and artisans. Raffle tickets will be available for many items.

Keep the dates of December 1 and 2, 1995 for a visit to one of Western Massachusetts' quality bazaars—the Country Holiday Fair at Country Estates.

Burgandy's

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it's good food

it's Louisiana Surf & Turf

it's Clams Casino

it's Shrimp Santa Fe

it's Baked Stuffed Lobster

it's Filet Mignon

it's Baked Scrod

it's great service with friendly servers and gracious hosts

it's a nice comfortable atmosphere

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Coupon

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Buy Two Pizzas, Get One Free
Buy Two Grinders, Get One Free

Higher Price Prevails
(Offer Ends November 30th)

Luncheon Specials - Gift Certificates

Beer & Wine And Much More
Major Credit Cards Accepted

60-Year Class Reunion For Agawam High 1935



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL Class of 1935 gathered for its 60-year reunion on October 10th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AGAWAM HIGH CLASS of 1935 members who coordinated the October 10th 60-year class reunion included, from left - Ronald King, Verne Spear, Mary Morris, Vivian Roberts, Edith Bongiovanni, Julio Alvirgini, and Kenneth Grady. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AGAWAM HIGH 1935 classmates Belinda Vandersingel-Shivick (Deleware) and Dewayne Raynor (Florida) traveled the furthest to attend the October 10th class reunion. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Country Estates To Host "Christmas Around The World"

Country Estates, located at 1200 Suffield Street, Agawam, has announced that it will be hosting a "Christmas Around The World" fundraising party on Sunday, November 5th, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Hundreds of items will be shown or on display for holiday decorating or for gift ideas. Door prizes will be awarded every half-hour.


All profits realized from the event will be used by "the elves" to shop for the residents.

The public is welcome, and refreshments will be served.

Best local news!!!

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Business Hours:
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Sunday, 3 PM - 8 PM

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218 Union Street, West Springfield

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- 19 Stool Seats At Counter For Kids
- Real 1950's Decor And Music

For Info Call

733-8551

Homemade Sauce Made Fresh!

Proprietor,
Michael Alfano.

Open 7 Days A Week

Gubby & Friends Slate Pizza & Beer Party For Scleroderma Research

On November 8, 1995, a pizza and beer party for scleroderma research will be held at the Dante Club, Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The donation is \$5.99 per person.

This event will be the last one to be held in 1995 by "Gubby" Borgatti and friends. The next one will be held in June 1996.

"All proceeds from our events go for scleroderma research," quotes the party committee. They are hoping for a good turnout to meet their quota. Thus far, they have done a splendid job by working diligently to promote the sale of tickets, as well as laboring together in preparing and serving all people attending.

On October 8th of this year, four members of the committee went to New Castle, Pennsylvania, and attended the annual dinner meeting to present the International Foundation with a check for \$6,000 for scleroderma research. The "traveling" members were Gubby, Tom and Adrienne Frasco, and Don Meffen, and they were greeted by the founders of the Scleroderma International Foundation—Archie Barlet and Dr. Stanley Jacob (a scientist from the University of Oregon), who are working to try to find a cause for this debilitating disease so they can proceed to find a cure.

Every year, there are more people diagnosed as scleroderma victims than in the past. At the recently held dinner meeting, there were 17 states represented and all of them had at least one victim of scleroderma in any given family.

Tickets for Gubby and friends' November 8th pizza and beer party are now on sale. There will be 250 tickets available; therefore, no tickets will be sold at the door unless some are returned (as some benefactors buy 10 tickets, sell two or three, and then return the unsold tickets).

The motto of the committee is, "All you can eat and drink, or until you run out ... and thus far, we have never run out of either!"

For tickets you can call Gubby at 786-2834; Tom Frasco at 786-0093; or Walt Miller at 739-6228. "Thank you's" are in order for the Dante Club, "The Agawam Advertiser News," and "The West Springfield Record" for their cooperation.



The Agawam Senior Games Athletes extend their MANY THANKS to the people of Agawam and their friends who attended ASGA's pancake breakfast on Sunday, October 29th and helped to make it such a successful event.

We truly enjoyed serving you all!

We also give great thanks to the Agawam Lions Club members who cooked this breakfast for us. We now extend an invitation to Agawam residents to attend the lions Pancake Breakfast which will be held on Sunday, November 5th at the "Lions' Den" on the grounds of The Big E.

Once again, we say - THANK YOU AGAWAM FOR YOUR GREAT SUPPORT!

Janice Bonk
ASGA Secretary

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Ag. Senior Center's Lunch Menu

Monday, November 6th: Beef Burgandy, egg noodles, mixed vegetables, oatmeal bread, peach.

Tuesday, November 7th: Birthdays & anniversaries—Broccoli, cheddar soup, chicken cutlet on roll, lettuce, tomato, cake.

Wednesday, November 8th: Country pie (hamburger, rice, cheese, tomatoes), tossed salad,

whole wheat bread, canned apricots.

Thursday, November 9th: Pork chop, mashed potatoes, cabbage & carrots, pumpnickel bread, applesauce with raisins.

Friday, November 10th: Senior Center closed (Veterans' Day).

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

If you wish to subscribe, please call us today at 786-7747 or 786-8137. Thanks.

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KELLY PELLEGRINO & PATRICK BAKER, JR.

Kelly A. Pellegrino To Wed Patrick Baker

John and Deborah Pellegrino of 59 Debra Lane, Agawam announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Ann Pellegrino of Agawam to Patrick Baker, Jr. of West Springfield. The future bridegroom is the son of Patrick and Rebecca Baker of 96 Buckingham Avenue, West Springfield.

The bride-to-be graduated from Agawam High School and Westfield State College with a bachelor's degree in business management. She is an administrative assistant in the operations department at the Holyoke Visiting Nurse Association in Holyoke.

The prospective bridegroom graduated from Cathedral High School and Bentley College, Waltham with a bachelor's degree in finance. He is a correctional officer at the Connecticut Department of Corrections, Enfield.

A June 14, 1996 wedding is planned.

Agawam Lions To Sponsor Harvest Pancake Breakfast

The Agawam Lions Club will sponsor a Harvest Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, November 5th, at the Agawam Lions Club on the Eastern States Exposition grounds, West Springfield, with servings from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

The cost for adults is \$3.50, and children are \$2 each. The profits this year will be used for scholarships and other projects.

Tickets may be purchased from any Lions Club member or at the door.



VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOV. 7TH:

If you like the way your town is being run, then reaffirm your faith in your incumbent officials by casting your vote on their behalf. If you wish a change, then vote for a newcomer. Either way, your participation at the ballot box makes our community a much better place!



District 7 VFW Ladies' Auxiliary Receives Top Membership Award

At the recently held council meeting in Brockton, District 7 VFW Ladies' Auxiliary once again received the top award for membership out of 18 districts. President Driscoll thanked all the auxiliaries that made this possible.

State President Diana Dello Iacono congratulated all the members assembled for their Department of Massachusetts and national programs. From District 7, Sandra McCarthy (State Safety Chairman and Senior Vice-President of Chicopee Auxiliary 625) gave an informative safety program, as well as Youth Activity Chairman Joan Luppino. Rehabilitation State Chairman Betty Butler spoke on the great job that District 7 and its Auxiliary did at Westover for the homeless veterans.

Rita Shea, State Chairman and President of Auxiliary 6714 in West Springfield, also spoke on the VFW National Home. She informed all those who were present that there are children and grandchildren of VFW and Ladies' Auxiliary members who need donations. The National Home is similar to Moose Heart and others.

District President Driscoll invites all District 7 paid members to the next district meeting in Chicopee in January 1996. All members must have their 1996 dues card in their possession.

Brad Tilden To Present Piano Recital Nov. 12 At Ag. Congregational

Brad Tilden will present a piano recital on November 12th at 3:00 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church. There will be a \$3 donation requested, as this is a fundraiser for Brad's trip to England in April 1996 with the Young People's Symphony that will be touring England and performing concerts in Winchester, Bristol, and London, England.

Following the program, refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall. Brad has been studying the piano for seven years under the direction of Ellen Buoniconti of the Music Cellar of West Springfield. He is presently a member of the Agawam High School Band, Jazz Band, Young People's Symphony, Holyoke Civic Symphony, and the Junior Extension of the Tuesday Morning Music Group.

Brad also volunteers his talents for the Heritage Hall North residents and other groups in the area. He is an active member of the Senior High Youth Group and often offers his musical talents at the Worship Services for the church.

Some of Brad's selections will include music from Brahms, Beethoven, Rachmaninoff, and Chopin. Brad will also perform some of his own compositions.

Will Houlihan-DiSisto Born Sept. 15th

Bill DiSisto and Lisa Houlihan joyfully announce the birth of their son, Will Houlihan DeSisto, born September 15th at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

The paternal grandparents are Bill and Joanne DiSisto of Agawam. The maternal grandparents are Dave and Dee Houlihan of Feeding Hills.

Will's great-grandmothers are Elisa Pajer of Agawam and Philomena DiSisto of Ocala, Florida. Will and his parents reside in the Forest Park section of Springfield.

Check our classifieds



TRICIA A. LONGO & JAMES D. PORTER

Tricia A. Longo To Wed James D. Porter

The engagement of Tricia A. Longo of Agawam to James D. Porter of Westfield has been announced by her parents, Carol Dominique of Indian Orchard, David Sepanek of Springfield, and Christopher Longo of Agawam.

The prospective bridegroom is the son of David Porter of Westfield and Alice Porter of New Britain, CT.

The bride-elect graduated from Agawam High School in 1987. She received a bachelor of science and nursing degree from Our Lady of the Elms College in 1995. She is a registered nurse at Hartford Hospital, CT.

Her fiancé graduated from Westfield High School in 1986. He received a bachelor of business management degree from Westfield State College in 1993. He is a sales representative for American Greetings/Carlton Cards and is co-owner of Getty Mart, Elm Street, Westfield.

The couple plans to wed on May 11, 1996.

For all the local news, you turn our pages every week!
ADVERTISER NEWS

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Cindi, Don, Brian & Nicki*

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Church News

Grace Baptists Moving To Town With New Church

by Peggy Shoemaker
Advertiser News Feature Writer

The congregation of Grace Baptist Church is moving its location from Springfield to a new church building on Pine Street, Feeding Hills (near the Suffield line), and it is expected to be in use by late November.

The church was located for many years at 18 Salem Street, Springfield, near Mattoon Street, and that church was sold a year ago. Since then, the congregational has been finalizing a new location. In the interim, they have been meeting at the Comfort Inn in Holyoke.

The Reverend Todd Kilburn is pastor of Grace Baptist Church, which has been in existence for 60 years. Construction began at the Pine Street property August 6th. The church is a white, vinyl-sided building with clear windows. One window high in the edifice is clear glass in the shape of a cross. A horseshoe-shaped driveway at this time leads to and from the building. The property is on Pine Street past Barry Street.

Grace Baptist Church has about 70 members from the Greater Springfield area, with about 20 living in Agawam and West Springfield.

Rev. Kilburn has been pastor of this church for six years. A native of Springfield, he grew up attending this church. He received his bachelor of arts degree from the Faith Baptist Bible College near Des Moines, Iowa, and returned to Springfield to serve Grace Church as minister of Christian Education and assistant pastor.

He was named pastor in 1989 when Pastor Gilbert Parker left to become pastor of the Practical Bible College in Johnson City, New York, and chairman of its Pastoral Training Department.

Rev. Kilburn is also affiliated with the Bible Baptist Academy in Northampton, and he works with Heritage Bible Institute as academic dean. He teaches New Testament Greek, preaches, and is active with vocal music and a wide variety of courses.

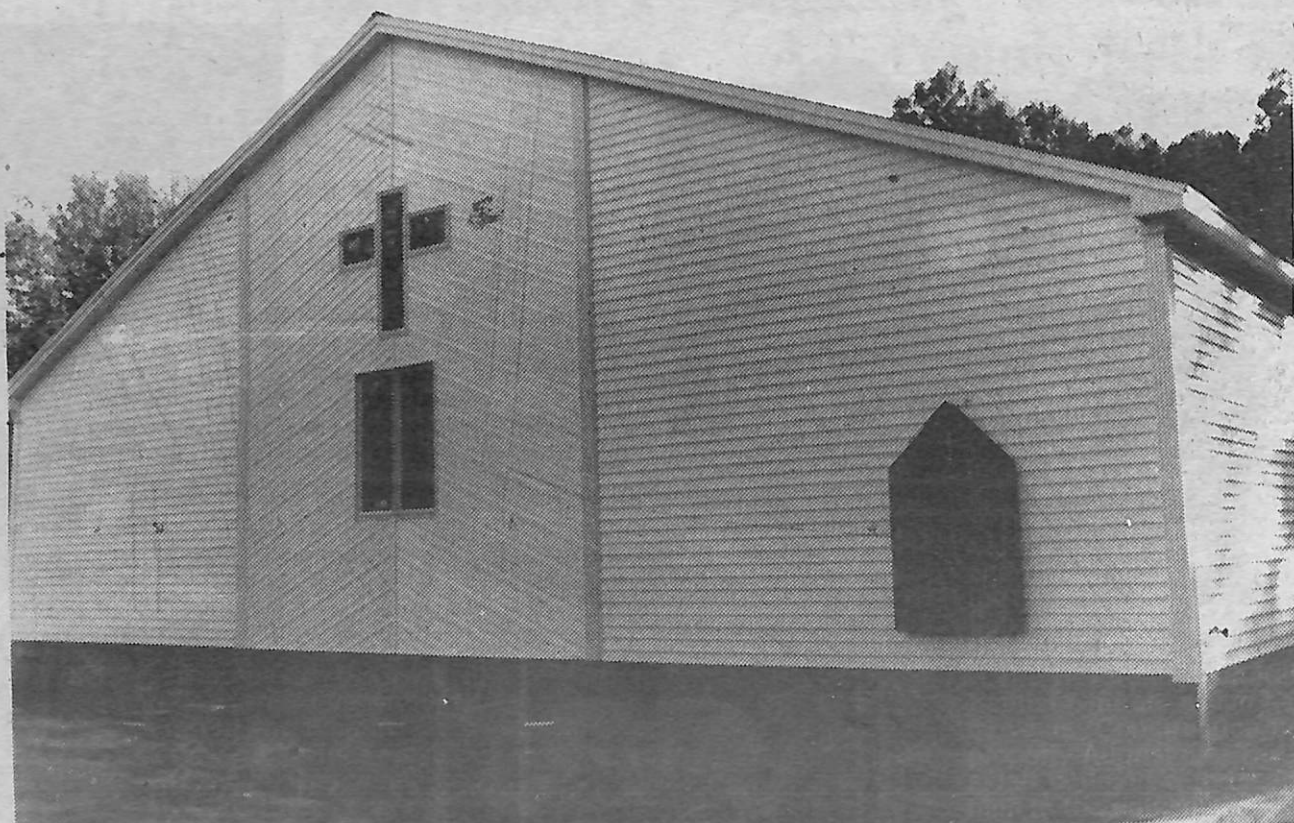
The pastor resides at a parsonage in Springfield with his wife, Ruth, and their 10 year-old son, Jonathan.

Dwight Scott of Feeding Hills is the general contractor for the new church and is also chairman of the Church Project Committee. Also on the committee are Philip Williamson of Chicopee, Thomas Dearborn, and Craig Roberts of Springfield.

The church services on Sundays are Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m. and Evening Service at 6:00 p.m. The mid-week prayer meeting is at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.



THE REVEREND TODD KILBURN is bringing the Grace Baptist Church into the Feeding Hills section of town on Pine Street. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



THE GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH is moving from Springfield onto land on Pine Street, Feeding Hills (near the Suffield line). The building is expected to be in use by the end of this month or in December. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Nocturnal Adoration Society To Meet Friday, November 3rd At Blessed Sacrament

The Nocturnal Adoration Society of Agawam and West Springfield will meet at Sacred Heart Church, Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, to conduct and pray The Office of The Blessed Sacrament on Friday, November 3rd, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

All are invited to come and spend an hour in

Eucharistic Adoration. ***

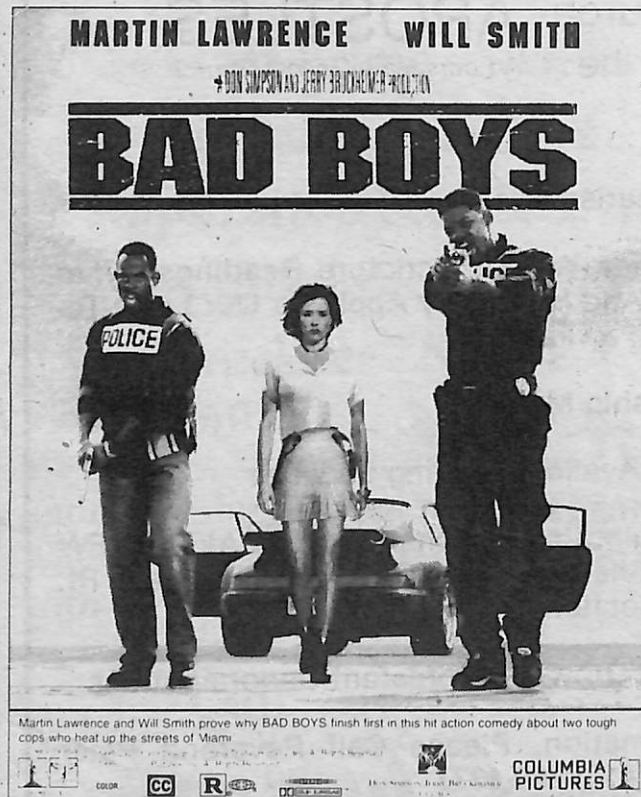
The annual Mass for Deceased Members will be celebrated on November 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the Dominican Nuns' Chapel, Riverdale Road, West Springfield.

Induction of new members will take place at this liturgy. A reception will follow the Mass.

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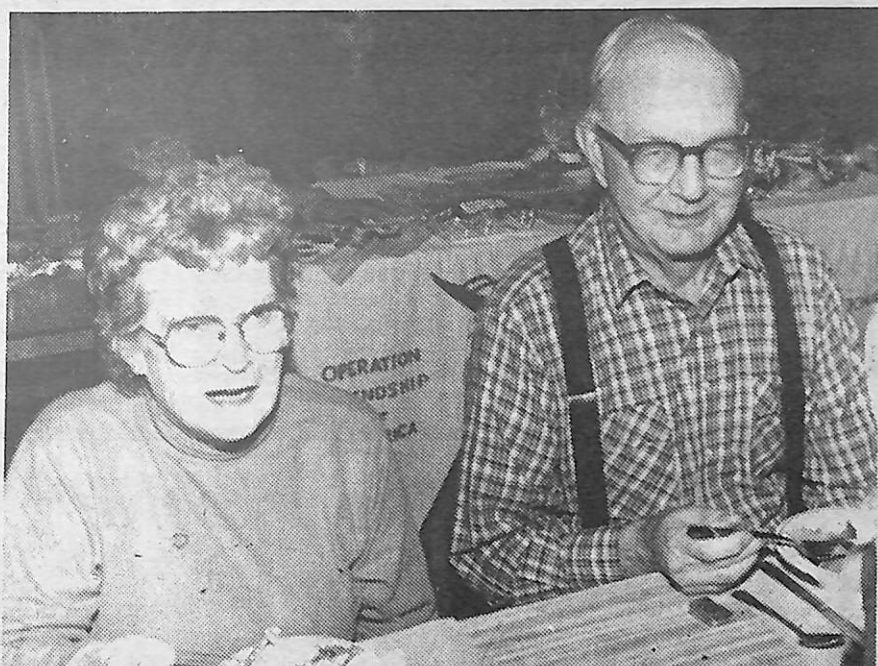
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Church News - continued...

Operation Friendship Holds Roast Beef Dinner



OPERATION FRIENDSHIP members at Feeding Hills Congregational Church who helped with the fundraising dinner on October 14th included, from left - Jon Couture, Mike Mangano, and Kelly Carmody. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ENJOYING THE OPERATION FRIENDSHIP Roast Beef dinner at F.H. Congregational Church are Rosella & John Whitney. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

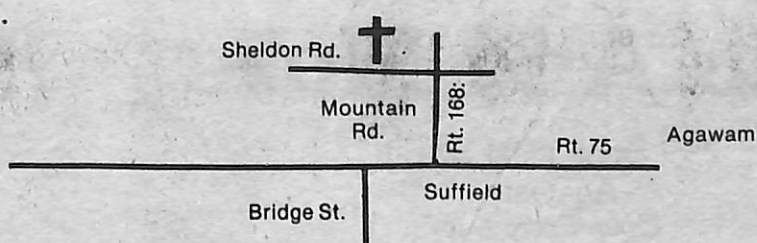


BILL ROSE was the chief meat cutter at the Operation Friendship Roast Beef dinner on October 14th at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



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Church News - continued...**News & Notes From F.H. Congregational**

"What's In It for Us?" will be the title of Rev. Donaldson's sermon this Sunday. Please join us for worship at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Sunday School and Adult Bible Literacy Class begin at 9:00 a.m. A Service of Holy Communion begins at 10:00 a.m. Children are encouraged to attend morning worship with their parents; nursery care is provided.

Members of the congregation are needed to be visitors to visit other members of the congregation for our all-member visitation pledge drive which will occur in November.

A special training session will be held on Tuesday evening, November 7th, at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested and available to visit, please contact Lani Kretschmar after church or at 786-9025.

Members and friends of the Feeding Hills Congregational Church are invited to attend Open House Festivities at Sandcastle Day Care/Nursery School.

The event takes place on Sunday, November 5th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The staff would like the opportunity to thank all of you for your help over the past year.

The Ladies Benevolent Society is pleased to announce their upcoming Chicken Pie Supper to be held on November 11th. Dinner will be served from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and will cost \$7.50 for adults and \$3 for children under age eight.

The menu will include chicken pie, cranberry sauce, whipped potatoes, beet relish, butternut squash, rolls and butter, green beans almondine, homemade apple or squash pie, and a beverage.

There will also be a Mini-Bazaar with many unique items for sale. You can fill your holiday shopping list and your stomach with just one stop! For reservations, call Mrs. Marjorie Taylor at 786-1935 or Mrs. Thelma Horenstein at 786-9195. Walk-ins are welcome!

An invitation has been accepted from Rabbi Mark Shapiro to attend a Sabbath Service at Sinai Temple in Springfield. The Confirmation Class from this church will attend with Melinda Coffey, their advisor.

Any adult members who would like to join them are welcome. Drivers are also needed. After the service, visitors will tour the synagogue and meet with Rabbi Shapiro.

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about people in our community.

Don't forget: next Sunday is Open Pantry Sunday. Bags of groceries and articles of clean, usable clothing are needed. Cash donations will also be accepted.

On the calendar this week:

November 5th: 9:00 a.m., Sunday School/Adult Bible Literacy; 10:00 a.m., Service of Holy Communion; 1:30 p.m., Youth Group to Rescue Mission; 6:30 p.m., Operation Friendship.

November 6th: 5:00 to 6:15 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Council.

November 7th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Ad Hoc Visitation Training.

November 8th: 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir; 8:00 p.m., A.A.

November 9th: 7:30 p.m., Deacons.

November 11th: 8:30 to 11:00 a.m., Pancake Breakfast; 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., LBS Chicken Pie Supper.

Agawam Church To Ask "Where Was God?" At Service

"Is God really there?" "Does God really care?" These are the kinds of questions that come to mind when we hear of tragedies like Waco or Oklahoma City.

The Pastor of Agawam Church, who had relatives in the Federal Building when it exploded, will go to the Bible to find answers to the question: "Where was God when the bomb rocked Oklahoma City?" An audiovisual presentation, which will feature pictures from Oklahoma City, will set the stage for the message from the Bible.

You are invited to join the church for this service on Sunday, November 5th, at 10:00 a.m. The church, which meets at the Agawam Junior High School, also has classes for all ages of children and a nursery.

For more information, please call 789-2904.

St. Thomas Women's Club To Hold Holiday Craft Fair/Bake Sale

The Women's Club of St. Thomas Church in West Springfield will hold its third annual Holiday Craft Fair and Bake Sale in the school gymnasium on Saturday, November 4th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Craft items will include Christmas decorations, stained glass, woodcraft, wreaths, dolls, stuffed animals, quilts, hand-knot items, and much, much more.

Homemade baked goods and fudge will be sold, and visitors can enjoy a light lunch. The club will have a great selection of holiday and year-round gifts for your early Christmas shopping.

Check our classified

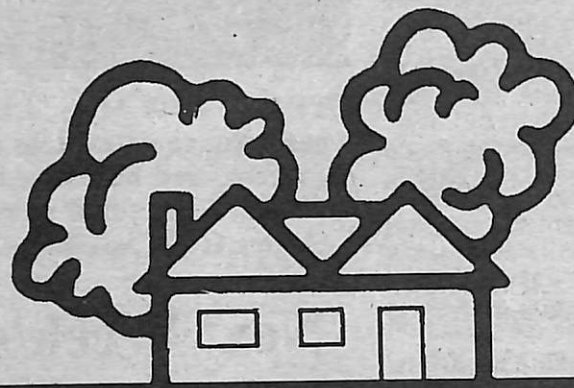
Rummage & Book Sale AT Temple Beth El

An enormous Rummage and Book Sale will be held by the Sisterhood of Temple Beth El at 979 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA, on Tuesday, November 7th, from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Wednesday, November 8th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Children's and adult clothing, household items, toys, books, and more will be among the items available for sale.

A \$3-per-bag special will be running all day on Wednesday, November 8th. Bags will be provided.

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MEMBER F.D.I.C.



Church News - continued...**Weekly Calendar From
Ag. Congregational**

On Sunday, November 5th, Rev. Curt Fuller's Sermon will be "To Catch A Glimpse" from Text: Luke 19:1-4. The Children's Message will be "Can You See It?"

This Sunday is Communion Sunday as well. Church School continues, with adult and seventh through 12th grade meeting at 9:15 a.m., and Crib Room through sixth grade meeting at 10:30 a.m. during the Worship Service.

The Jr. Choir continues to meet following the Worship Service. All children ages three to 16 are welcome to attend the choir practice.

Playgroup for infants to pre-school is every Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. For more information about the Playgroup, call Sue Tapply at 786-1430 or the church office at 786-7111.

The Midweek Service is held each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. This service is a half-hour, informal Worship Service with hymns, prayers, and communion.

Next Sunday, November 12th, is Stewardship Sunday. This year's theme is "Growing Towards God."

A series of cottage meetings have been held throughout the area.

A Piano Recital presented by Brad Tilden will be held on November 12th at 3:00 p.m., with a reception following the program.

A donation of \$3 is requested.

The Annual Holly Wreath Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 18th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Crafts, baked goods, attic treasures, raffles, and a luncheon are just a few samples of the fair.

A New Member Class will begin on Sunday, November 5th. The classes will cover the exciting programs and activities of the church.

Also, the local, regional, national, and worldwide church mission projects and service opportunities of the church will be discussed.

If you would like to join our Fellowship, please contact Rev. Fuller, 786-7111.

Youth Communion will be held on Sunday, November 12th, at 9:15 a.m. Rev. Fuller and Deacons will lead the Junior High and Senior High young people in a service of communion.

This program is designed to help the youth understand the meaning and importance of Holy Communion.

**Church Of Christ
Has Free Clothing
For Needy Families**

The West Springfield Church of Christ on 61 Upper Church Street in West Springfield will open its benevolent doors on Saturday, November 4th, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Free clothing suitable for the fall and winter will be available in a range of sizes children through adult.

Twice each year church members collect clothing for the needy. The program is entering its third year of service. It was started as a way to fulfill the Lord's command in Matthew 25:31-46.

Stephen Rollins, minister of the congregation, believes that by clothing the needy, the church is really serving Jesus. "Then the righteous will answer Him, 'When did we see you needing clothes and clothe you? The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'" (Matthew 25:37-40)

Mr. Rollins continues, "Our love for Christ compels us to be gracious to others. He has blessed us so that we can be a blessing to someone else. Any church not touched by the poverty of others whether it be physical, emotional, and particularly spiritual has lost the mindset of Christ."

All are welcome, and church members will be available to assist you.

**For all the local
news, you turn our
pages every week
ADVERTISER NEWS**

Holiday Cemetery Logs Can Be Bought

THE MR. & MRS. CLUB of the First Baptist Church of Agawam is again creating its beautiful cemetery logs which are filled to the brim with all natural greenery finished with a gorgeous red bow. The logs will be sold again this year for \$8 and can be reserved by calling 786-8285. Pictured above are, from left - Jean Goss, Everett Hodge, Aletha Hodge, and Shirley Goss. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Next Week's Calendar At First Baptist Church

The celebration of communion will be held this Sunday at the 9:30 a.m. worship service at First Baptist Church.

As usual, classes for all ages will be held following worship. Two adult classes are available—"Nuts & Bolts Christianity" led by the Pastor, and "When God Whispers In Your Ear" led by Everett Hodge.

The Senior High youth group will meet from 12:00 noon until 1:30 p.m.

Also on our calendar this week:

Monday, November 6th: 7:00 p.m., Baptist Women's Day of Prayer Observance in the Chapel (all women invited); 7:30 p.m., Amicitia Circle meets; 7:30 p.m., Sunshine Circle meets.

Tuesday, November 7th: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Church Committee meets.

Wednesday, November 8th: 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open.

Thursday, November 9th: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 6:00 p.m., Take Out and Talk Out (discussion of the Book of Mark); 7:00 p.m., Nuts & Bolts Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

The annual Jingle Valley Fair will be held this year on Saturday, November 18th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Begin now to make your preparations to be there and to participate.

The Caring Connection will have their next meeting on November 20th. Contact people for the month of November are Sharon and Doug Grabowski (860-668-0450) or Gwen and Jack Magovern (786-3542). Call them if you have concerns.

The church office is open weekday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Our telephone number is 786-7300.

Call if you have any pastoral needs.

**Church Of Good Shepherd To Host
Holiday Fair On November 11th**

The Church of the Good Shepherd, located at 214 Elm Street in West Springfield, will host a fair on November 11th from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A luncheon will be held at 12:00 noon, and din-

ner will take place from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Items to be sold at the fair include handmades, crafts, toys, plants, and boutiques, and there will be demonstrations on wreathmaking and spinning.

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Tax-Friendly IRAs

We've heard plenty of rhetoric this year from the nation's capital as members of Congress jockey for attention with a plethora of budgetary and tax reform proposals, many of them at odds with each other. One proposal, though, seems to have across-the-board support: increased tax benefits for IRAs.

Individual Retirement Accounts were launched in 1981 in an effort to entice Americans to save more money. People could set up a retirement fund with a maximum annual IRA contribution of \$2,000 (\$2,250 for a Spousal IRA) which not only offered tax-free growth, it also reduced taxable income.

Many people wisely took advantage of this incentive to save. By the mid-1980s, approximately 16.2 million taxpayers claimed IRA deductions. Then came the 1986 tax reform which lowered rates and eliminated deductions.

As it stands now, the full tax deduction exists only for individuals who earn less than \$25,000, married couples who earn less than \$40,000, and people who are not covered by their employer's pension plans (it doesn't matter if you participate; it's eligibility that counts). Further, taxes are not

eliminated; they're deferred until you begin withdrawing funds (at age 59½).

Participation fell as a result of the loss of tax benefits. In 1992, only 4.5 million people claimed the deduction.

It now appears as though the time for IRAs has come again. Lawmakers rightly view IRAs as a way to provide tax breaks for middle America and boost retirement savings.

The hope is that the reintroduction of tax-friendly IRAs will start a cycle of increased capital investments and lower interest rates, which will trigger overall economic growth for the U.S.

No matter how the final legislation turns out, however, maintaining an IRA makes sense even for people who contribute to other retirement plans—and even under current IRA regulations, according to Lisa Berger.

"After all," she says in her book *Feathering Your Nest*, "your money does accumulate tax-free until withdrawal."

Further, the benefits of investment compounding add to the advantages of saving early and often. As Berger notes, if you contribute \$2,000 annually to an IRA and your investment earns a modest return of five percent, your nest egg will total \$100,227 after 25 years. At 7.5 percent, a \$2,000 annual contribution for 25 years will give you a retirement fund of \$146,152.

In general, the higher the rate you earn on your IRA and the higher your tax bracket, the more valuable as IRA is to you. However, as a saving plan, IRAs are valuable for everyone.

Don't wait for Congress to have the final word; the advantages of IRAs, even as they currently are set up, are clear. Check with your accountant or financial advisor if you have questions.

To receive further information or if you would like to arrange a free 30-minute consultation, please contact me at my office, 534-3883.

Century 21

by
John Schuler
Real Estate
Consultant



Newschu Real Estate, Inc.
 820 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA

It's A Buyer's Market!!!

Perhaps you'd like to take advantage of today's great buyer's market in housing but feel a little intimidated by everything involved.

You know the routine: finding the right locale and the right house; negotiating an agreement; putting together a down payment; and selecting the best mortgage available.

There are two things you can do to make every step run smoothly. The first is to select a really professional agent who knows the real estate business, knows your local market, has both a solid reputation for integrity and a solid record of success, and clearly is eager to respond to your needs.

The second is to make your agent your teammate in the literal sense of the word, using teamwork to be sure that the house you ultimately buy is the house you've always wanted.

Making your agent your teammate requires choosing an agent you feel able to trust both as a person and as a professional. And that's no small matter. In real estate as in all areas of business—as in all aspects of life, actually—trust can make all the difference in the world.

True teamwork is nearly impossible to achieve unless you stick with one agent throughout the buying process. By all means you should shop around—and shop around carefully—when you're still deciding which agent to work with.

Once you've made that decision, however, don't reverse it unless (and this rarely happens to people who were very careful in the first place) something specific happens to make it clear that your choice was unwise.

Teammate status is all the motivation a first-rate agent needs to go all-out in finding houses that suit your needs. And if you're candid about what it is you're looking for and how much house you think you can afford, your agent can save you a huge amount of time and effort.

If you are not sure how much you can afford, be candid with your agent about that, too. He or she can provide you with some helpful preliminary guidelines and put you in touch with mortgage lenders who know how to get you focused on an appropriate price range.

It's always a good idea, as you look at listed homes, to give your agent a lot of feedback on what you've seen. Good feedback will refine and sharpen the agent's understanding of your likes and dislikes, which in turn make it easier to find the house of your dreams.

The ultimate payoff, once again, is that you get to your goal more quickly, expending less time and effort along the way. Anyone who has ever done it this way will assure you of one thing: it pays off.

Building & Trade Expo Held



REPRESENTING BAYBANK at the Building Industry Expo at Chez Josef were Debbie Leven, Donald Anderson, and AnnMarie Iwanicki. RELATED STORY AND PHOTOS ON NEXT PAGE. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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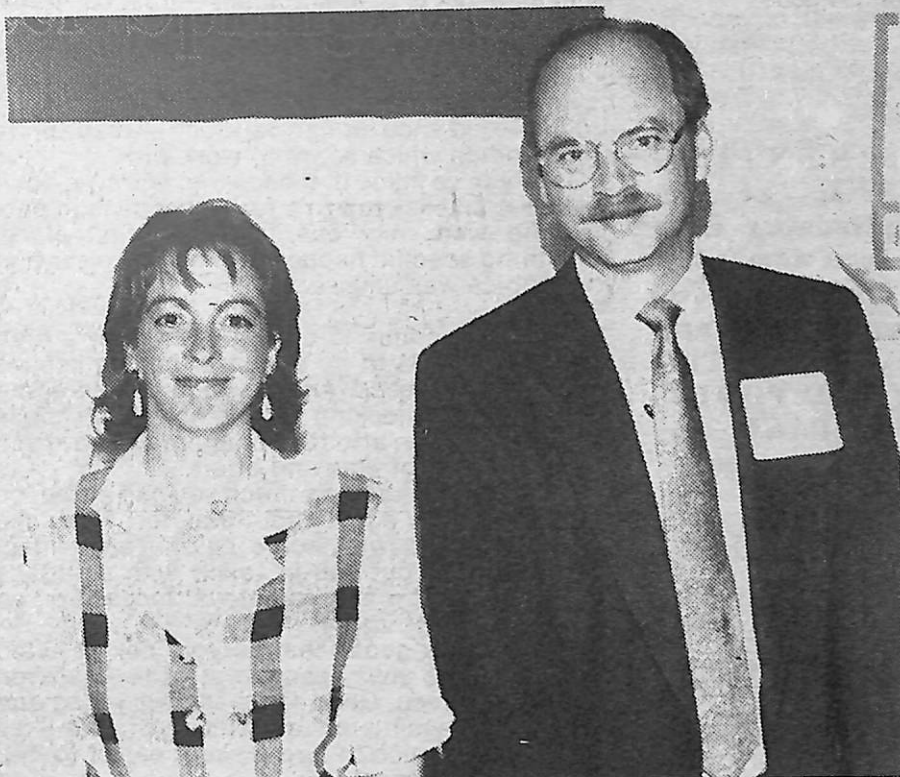
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Spotlight On Business - continued...



FROM LANDRY, LYONS, AND WHYTE Real Estate Agency were Pam Savioli and Kathy Witalisz. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



REPRESENTING THE HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION at the Building Industry Expo '95 at Chez Josef were Joann Stuart and Michael Boillard, event chairman. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Annual Building Industry Expo Draws Over 1,000 Businesspeople

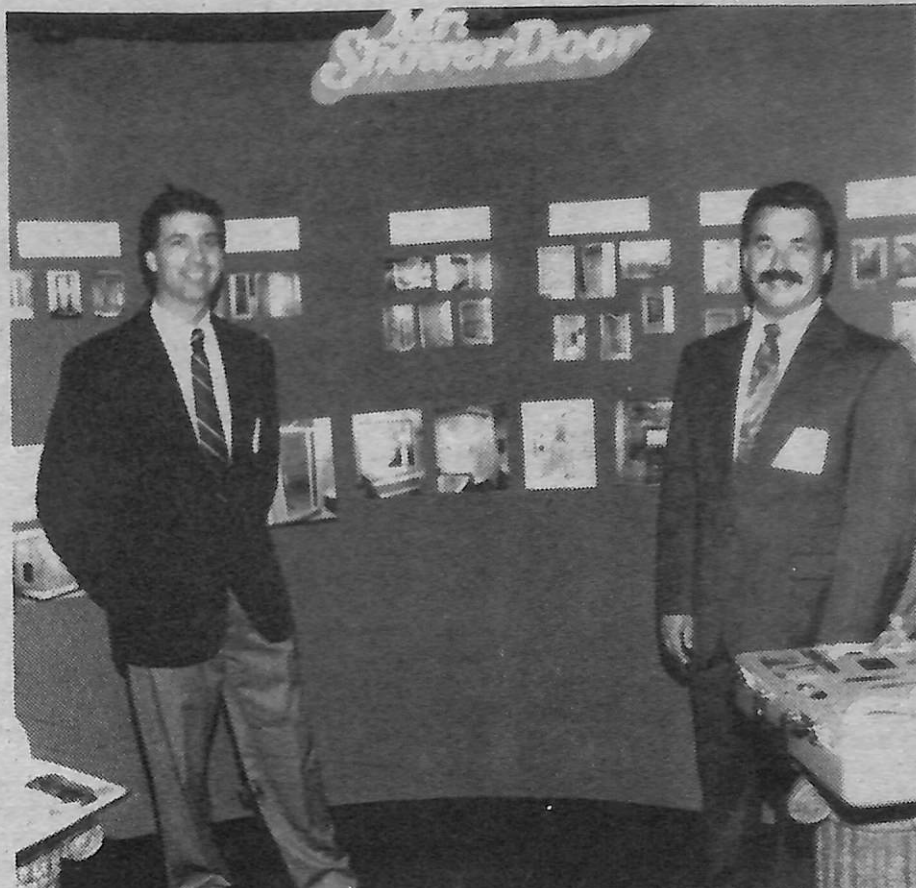
Close to 1,000 builders, remodelers, and others involved in the home building industry were among the throng who attended the Home Builders Association of Greater Springfield's annual Building Industry Expo '95 at Chez Josef in Agawam on Tuesday October 10th, from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m.

This targeted market of construction industry professionals viewed displays of 80 local and national exhibitors, representing the entire spectrum of home building and related business, offering the latest and most innovative products and services available.

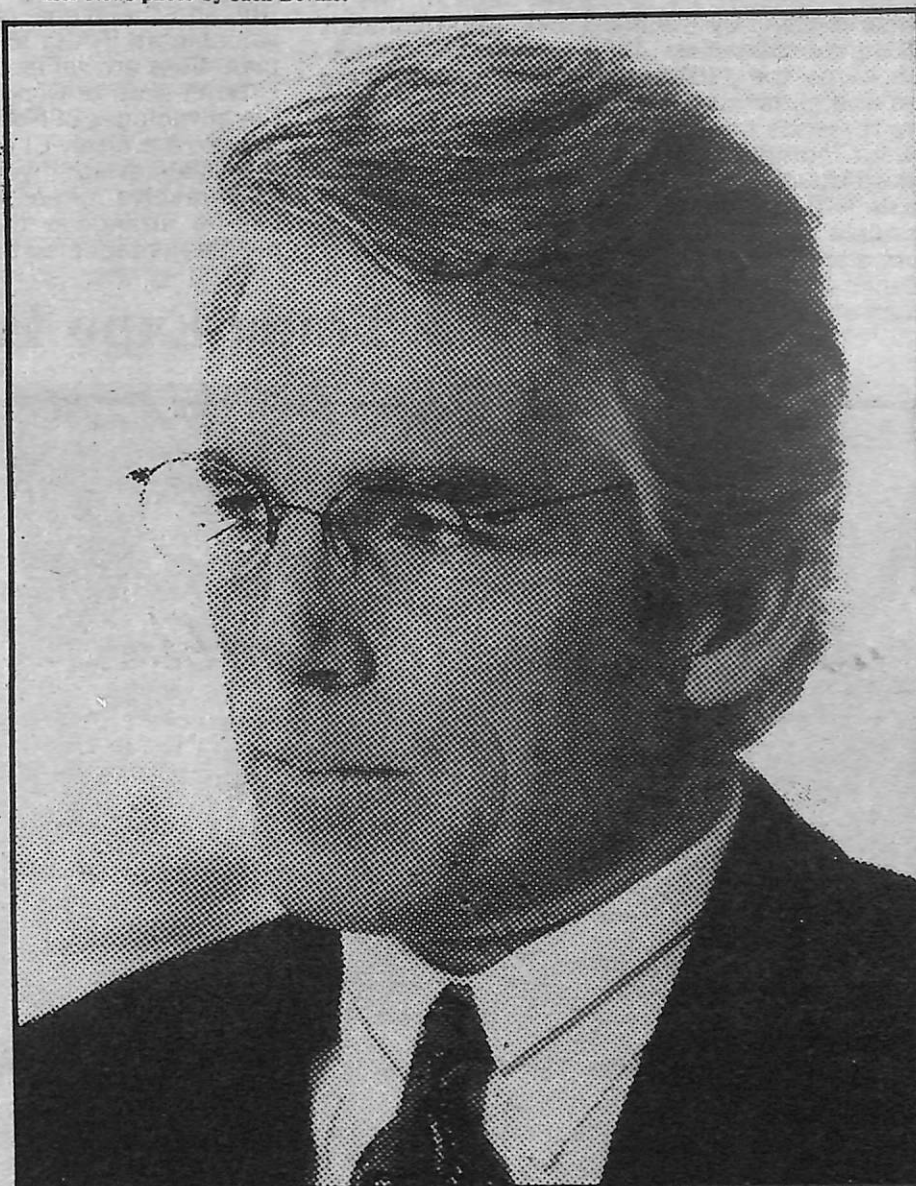
Chairman Michael A. Boillard of A. Boillard & Sons was pleased with the response from both exhibitors and attendees. He stated, "Building Industry Expo is proof that there is a need for this type of show in our area. Each year attendance increases and we hear more and more positive comments from exhibitors."

Attendees had the opportunity to inspect the displays, ask questions in a relaxed atmosphere, and enjoy the complimentary hot and cold hors d'oeuvres buffet. Cash prizes were awarded throughout the evening, with no purchase necessary. Admission was free of charge for those affiliated with the construction industry.

The Home Builders Association of Greater Springfield sponsors this construction industry trade show annually in October. For more information on exhibit space for next year's show, please contact JoAnn Stuart at (413) 733-3126.



FROM MR. SHOWER DOOR in Feeding Hills at the Building Industry Expo were Bill Daubmann (left) and Dan Willett. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



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For Your Health



GEORGE SCHMAELZLE and JOE LEPORATI consult with a representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield at the elderly health fair held at Fitness First.



ELEANOR FLAGGER has her blood pressure checked by Fitness First Health Director Rick Hersom.

Elderly Health Fair Draws Big Crowd

Over 90 seniors attended the first annual Senior "Healthy Choices" health fair at Fitness First last week.

Eleven exhibitors were on hand to speak with adults over age 50 about hearing aids, financial assistance programs, home health aids, senior newspapers, health insurance, and senior center information.

Fitness First brought in two speakers from the Agawam Senior Center and the Visiting Nurses Association who addressed issues pertaining to

our aging population and how they can stay healthy longer.

Fitness First offered healthy snacks, free blood pressure screening, and free "Healthy Choices" T-shirts to all who attended.

Fitness First offers "Young At Heart" pool exercise classes and "Stretch, Walk & Tone" floor classes to all seniors over age 50. Older adults looking for additional daytime activities should contact Fitness First at 786-1460 to arrange for a health screening and free pass to try one of the above classes.

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as your spine is flexible...*



*Dr. Tami Nelson
Hampden County Chiropractic
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Feeding Hills, Ma 01030
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FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS at our Open House

Noble Hospital's Sports and Rehabilitation Center is opening its doors to the public on Thursday, Nov. 9, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Join us and meet the staff from the Sports and Rehabilitation Center and the Bronson Rehabilitation Center at Noble Hospital. Learn about the broad spectrum of therapy services provided at the outpatient center and at Noble Hospital. The Open House is located at:

The Sports and Rehabilitation Center
76 Main Street, Westfield

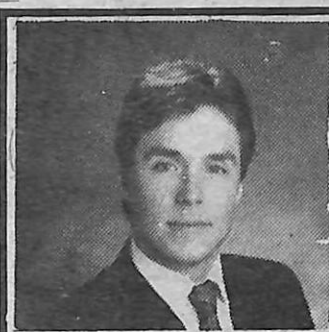
Free screenings at the Open House include:
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For Your Health - continued...



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

The MRI....

Question: A friend recently visited a chiropractor who ordered an MRI. It revealed a herniated disc. What is an MRI and how is it that a chiropractor was able to order this expensive medical test?

Answer: Doctors of Chiropractic are licensed physicians and, like other physicians, have been ordering MRIs and CT scans since these procedures became available. The MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) is advanced diagnostic imaging that uses magnetism, radio waves, and computer analysis to provide detailed and accurate pictures of internal organs and tissues without radiation.

MRI has the unique ability to "see through" bone without distorting the image. Unlike CT ("CAT" scan), MRI can be used to image any plane of the body.

The test becomes of particular interest to chiropractors (and other physicians) who want to know about the condition of the discs of the spine or other soft tissue that may not be seen with conventional x-ray.

The procedure is expensive; \$1,000 plus is not unusual. It is not appropriate to order this test without proper clinical justification.

Experts have questioned whether the findings necessarily relate to patient complaints and whether they are responsible for increased surgery. A study recently released in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, "Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Lumbar Spine in People Without Back Pain," examines that question.

The study did MRIs on 98 people without symptoms and discovered a high prevalence of disc bulges, protrusions, and extrusions. With the results of two readings averaged, 52 percent of people without symptoms had a protrusion and one percent had an extrusion. Thus, 64 percent of these people without back pain had a disc abnormality, and 38 percent had an abnormality at more than one level.

While surgery may be recommended following positive MRI scan, it is wise to remember that surgical intervention, especially in the spine, is to be considered a radical procedure and should be performed ONLY as a last resort.

Only rarely is it necessary for a patient to undergo surgery. Conservative manipulations (adjustments) performed by a qualified doctor of chiropractic continue to be reinforced as the first path of treatment before most other forms of treatment.

Should alternative treatment be needed, your chiropractor will refer you to the appropriate physician. If you suffer with back problems, call SCHLAFFER CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE, 192 Shoemaker Lane, telephone number (413) 789-1369. We care about you!

Alliance For Mentally Ill To Hold Meeting On November 13th

The Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Western Massachusetts will hold its next educational meeting on Monday, November 13th, at 7:00 p.m. at Mont Marie Conference Center in Holyoke.

The speaker will be Dr. Alan I. Green, Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. His topic will be "Clinical Research on New Medications for Psychotic Disorders."

There will be time for a question and answer period. If you find currently available medications less than satisfactory, you won't want to miss this program.

Course credit will be available for professionals who attend.

This meeting is free to attend and open to the public. In addition, free parking is available at the Mont Marie Conference Center (located just off Route 5 at Ingleside in Holyoke).

For more information, call 786-9139.

Baystate Medical Has Western Mass. Breast Cancer Resource Guide

Area women searching for information on breast cancer can now turn to the free Western Massachusetts Breast Cancer Resource Guide, developed by the Comprehensive Breast Program at Baystate Medical Center and sponsored by the Rays of Hope Walk Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer.

Free copies of the new resource guide can be obtained by calling The Professionals at Baystate Health Systems at 1-800-377-HEALTH.

The 55-page Resource Guide includes a section on breast cancer facts and lists agencies and services, complete with address and telephone number. Also included in the Resource Guide are national and state breast cancer organizations and support groups.

A supplementary services section contains listings of breast cancer resource libraries, breast cancer books, videos and publications, and a start-up directory of computer on-line information sources. Area wig and prostheses suppliers are also listed.

Baystate Medical Center's Comprehensive Breast Program is a unique interdisciplinary program incorporating Baystate Medical Center staff physicians and community physicians. Under the medical direction of Grace Makari-Judson, M.D., the program includes diagnosis, multidisciplinary consultation, high-risk screening, education and outreach services, and support services.

Noble Hospital To Present "Heart Smart Bingo"

Noble Hospital's Cardiac Rehabilitation Program is presenting "Heart Smart Bingo," a program designed to offer education and information about healthy heart lifestyles. Heart Smart Bingo is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14th, at 1:30 p.m. in the hospital's Auditorium.

Heart Smart Bingo is played just like regular bingo, except the cards have images of healthy food or lifestyles, and the participants are educated about maintaining and striving for a healthy heart. The purpose of the program is to create a fun learning experience while stressing the importance of risk reduction for heart disease.

Heart Smart Bingo is \$4 per person, which provides the participant with two cards, refreshments, and the opportunity to win gifts. No cash prizes will be awarded.

Pre-registration is necessary and seating is limited. Call Noble's Cardiac Rehabilitation Program at 568-2811, ext. 5829, to register.

Best local news...

Domestic Violence Conference Slated

As the recent O.J. Simpson trial dramatically highlighted, domestic violence continues to impact families across the country, without regard to race, religion, or financial status.

In response to the "epidemic" of violence, Brightside for Families and Children and the Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will be sponsoring a conference titled "A Community of Women Respond to Domestic Violence."

The seminar will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 18th, at Brightside's main campus in West Springfield. Springfield District Court Judge Nancy Dusek-Gomez, Rev. Rodney Copp, and Springfield attorney Victor Gagnon will be the featured speakers. They will also take part in a panel discussion and question and answer session.

This conference will address the specific needs of those who want to help victims, but don't know how. Participants will address the myths about domestic violence, and provide information to those asked to help the victims.

Also among the issues to be addressed: the needs of women's groups, men and women in the helping professions, clergy, pastoral office personnel, religious education teachers, and others.

The seminar is open to the general public with a registration fee of only \$20. Some scholarships are available.

For reservations or more information, call (413) 543-1325.

Diabetic Education Slated At Mercy Hosp.

A series of diabetic education programs will be offered in November by the Patient Education Department at Mercy Hospital.

The free hour-long programs will be conducted on four consecutive days, beginning Nov. 13th, 2:30 p.m., in the Deliso Conference Center. Topics include: "Introduction to Diabetes," "Diet and Diabetes," "Medications Used in the Treatment of Diabetes," and "Complications Related to Diabetes."

Registration is required. For more information, call the Patient Education Department, (413) 748-9024, between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. weekdays, or leave a message.

Cancer Support Group To Meet Nov. 14th At Mercy Hospital

Mercy Hospital's LIFE (Living is Feeling Exceptional) Cancer Support Group will meet Nov. 14th and 28th, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Women's Pavilion, 299 Carew St.

Meetings are conducted the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, and are open to cancer patients, their families, and friends.

For more information, call the Women's Pavilion, (413) 748-9080.

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For Your Health - continued...

Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Kids Grow Well On Low-Fat Diet

Two large-scale studies - the first to examine how a low-fat diet affects children's development - found healthy growth and on-target development along with a better nutritional profile in a total of more than 6,000 children, researchers said at the 78th Annual Meeting & Exhibition of The American Dietetic Association (ADA).

"Our most important results show that children can be taught to eat a low-fat diet, that following a low-fat diet does have a significant impact on their blood-cholesterol levels, yet it does not interrupt or negatively impact growth," said Linda Van Horn, Ph.D., R.D., professor of preventive medicine at Northwestern University in Chicago and principal investigator of the Dietary Intervention Study in Children (DISC), which is tracking growth among nearly 700 youngsters at risk for developing cardiovascular trouble.

Now in its ninth year of achieving reduced blood-cholesterol levels, DISC will follow its subjects to age 18, when adult stature is reached. "A very important breakthrough of this study is that we focused the intervention on the children, relying on parents and family for support, and that the children were so heavily involved," Van Horn said. Starting around the age of eight, kids took respon-

sibility for recalling what they ate, periodically visiting a demonstration kitchen to make their own healthful food and participating in focus groups to talk about their experiences.

For the children, "the hardest thing was following this low-fat diet through every birthday party, every sleepover, every baseball game—and, of course, the diet allowed for that," Van Horn said. She added that they found it was more important to fit into a certain peer group than to make an issue of what you eat when you're there.

A second study—the Child and Adolescent Trial on Cardiovascular Health, or CATCH—involved more than 5,000 youngsters in third through fifth grades at 96 schools nationwide. "We were able to safely reduce fat in school lunches, increase kids' physical activity levels, and improve healthy eating patterns during a three-year period," reported Theresa A. Nicklas, Dr.P.H., associate professor of dietary studies at the Center for Cardiovascular Health, Tulane University, School of Public Health, New Orleans.

Both studies are expected to influence national discussion and policy-making on fat reduction in children's diets. "DISC is designated as the study on the efficacy and feasibility of modifying diet for children with high blood cholesterol," Van Horn said. "There's been a lot of concern: Will kids do it? Will they be scrawny if they do? But people in their 50's routinely warn that it's a lot harder to make these changes when you're older."

Nicklas, who has worked extensively with the famed Bogalusa Heart Health Study, pointed to the CATCH study's success in reducing participants' fat intake from 39 to 32 percent of calories, with a reduction in saturated fat from 5 to 12 percent of calories. "Just the school lunch changes resulted in a fat intake that was significantly lower than in the control schools," she said. "This shows how much you can do just by modifying school lunches."

Nancy Dell, MS, is the Media Representative for the Western Mass. Dietetic Association and a Registered Dietitian with a private practice in Feeding Hills. She can be reached at (413) 786-2957.

Mercy Hospital's Mobile Hearing Center To Hold Free Screening At Senior Center

Mercy Hospital's Weldon Mobile Hearing Center will conduct free hearing screenings and hearing aid checks at the Agawam Senior Center on November 13th at 9:00 a.m.

In addition, full diagnostic hearing tests, evaluations, fittings, sales and service of hearing aids, and assistive-listening devices, can be

scheduled on a fee-for-service basis.

The hearing van's audiology equipment is operated by nationally certified audiologists from the Weldon Hearing Center at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

For a reservation, call the Agawam Senior Center at 786-0400, extension 242.



Living Well

by Rick Hersom
Fitness Director
Fitness First Health
and Fitness Center
60 N. Westfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-1460

Some Home Equipment Too Good To Be True

As the weather gets colder, people tend to want to do more activities inside. It is only natural to want to enjoy the warmth and comfort of home. Unfortunately, those people that were active outside usually do not remain as active once they move indoors.

The adventurous person may buy home exercise equipment to stay in shape over the winter. There are so many different pieces of equipment, and so many claims, what is the truth?

There are a few things to remember before you pick up that phone and order the newest craze to hit the info-commercial:

* No one piece of equipment can do it all.

* You cannot spot reduce! The claims from that abdominal trainer that tell you all you have to do is use that and you will have a flat stomach are not true. By training just your stomach, you will not lose 60 pounds, have flat abs, or be in great physical shape.

* Cardiovascular equipment (treadmill, Nordic Track, Health Rider) will help you to burn calories, but it will not strengthen your muscles as effectively as weight training, nor will it train all of your muscles.

* If they say you must order now to receive their great price, forget it. Do not be pressured into making a decision on the spot.

* If the machine seems to be too good to be true, then it is. If it addresses all of your problems, then it is nothing short of a miracle.

* Do not order anything unless you have tried it before, and they give you a full money-back guarantee.

* Research before you buy. Check *Consumer Report*, *Shape*, *Men's Fitness*, or some other source for the lowdown.

Stay active this winter, but remember, a good fitness program consists of aerobic activity, strength training, and flexibility. There is a lot of good home equipment, just look with your eyes open.

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For Your Health - continued...

Seniors Urged To Get Vaccinated For Influenza & Pneumonia

Each year, millions of Americans develop influenza, a potential life-threatening lung disease that leads to complications such as pneumonia. As many as 76,000 Americans die of influenza and pneumonia each year. Lung disease is now the third-leading cause of death in America today.

"Influenza is largely preventable with vaccines, and a major type of pneumonia is controllable by a vaccine," says Dr. Fred Mudawwar, President of the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts. "Tragically, only 40.9 percent of older adults living at home receive influenza vaccines, and only 26.7 percent receive the pneumococcal pneumonia vaccine."

This fall, the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts urges all those at high risk for influenza to get their annual vaccinations between October 15th and November 15th. The influenza vaccine is recommended annually because the virus strain changes regularly, while the pneumonia vaccine is given only once (with revaccination occurring only under special circumstances).

"Unfortunately, most Americans don't realize how easy it is to prevent influenza," explains Mudawwar. Both the influenza and the pneumonia vaccines are covered by Medicare and most other health insurance programs. "Every person in a high-risk group should receive an influenza vaccine each year," says Mudawwar.

Those at high-risk for influenza include anyone who: is over age 65, has chronic lung, heart or kidney disease, resides in a nursing home or other chronic care facility, or have other chronic diseases. In addition, care-givers who are in contact with high-risk persons are advised to be vaccinated.

Pneumococcal pneumonia vaccination is also recommended for those over age 65, adults with chronic illnesses, and persons with HIV infection. The pneumococcal vaccine can be given at the same time as influenza using different injection sites.

"In 1992, almost 90 percent of all deaths from influenza occurred in persons aged 65 or older. Together, influenza and pneumonia represented a cost to the U.S. economy in 1991 of over \$20 billion—these figures are entirely unacceptable when preventative vaccines for both influenza and pneumonia are readily available and affordable," says Mudawwar.

For more information about influenza and pneumonia vaccines, call the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA.



FLU SHOTS AT SENIOR CENTER - from left - Hellen Skiba, town nurse Marialyse Rivers, Beth Monaco, and Alma Marcinkiewicz. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



JOSEPHINE DAVIO receives her flu shot at the Agawam Senior Center from Dr. James Doering of Agawam. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Another Case History...

1. What was your health problem?

I had pain in my neck, sometimes with strong headaches. There was pain up the back of my head. It just drove me nuts.

2. How long had it troubled you?

For two years.

3. Describe what chiropractic has done for you:

It relieved me of my headaches and pain at the base of my skull. I sleep better.

Program On Alzheimer's Disease To Be Offered At Noble Hospital

A program on Alzheimer's Disease will be offered at Noble Hospital in Westfield on Wednesday, November 15th. Carole Gossman, Program Director of the Fowler Wing Psychiatric Unit at Noble, will present the community program, which begins at 6:30 p.m. in the hospital's Auditorium.

Topics to be discussed include the signs, symp-

4. What have you told others about your experience with chiropractic?

That it can help problems you wouldn't expect it to. The other day I mentioned it to my sister who has a glandular problem.

5. What would you suggest to someone with a similar problem?

Definitely see a chiropractor. You can see a medical doctor, but if you are just getting drugs, then you are just becoming dependant on the drugs, not fixing the problem.

If you are interested in learning more about chiropractic, Dr. Nelson offers a complimentary health care class which answers many questions you may have. Our next scheduled class will be on Monday, November 6th at 7:00 p.m. at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

Please call our office at 786-4820 to reserve a space. Dr. Nelson is available to answer questions on Monday and Wednesday from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at the above number.

toms, and causes of the disease. Ms. Gossman will also discuss the current investigations and current theories of the cause of Alzheimer's Disease. Questions are welcomed and encouraged.

Refreshments will be served. To register, please call Noble's HealthBEAT at 568-BEAT (2328).

Donate Blood, Receive Toys At Mercy Hosp.

Get a jump on your holiday shopping when you give the "Gift of Life" at Mercy Hospital's Blood Bank during November.

Donors will receive gifts courtesy of Milton Bradley and LEGO, while supplies last. And, all donors will receive a free mini-checkup that includes blood pressure, blood iron, and cholesterol testing.

Giving blood this month is a great way to help others, give something extra to the children on your gift list, and monitor your health.

Donors must be 18 or older (17 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Blood Bank hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with Wednesday and Thursday hours extended until 7:00 p.m.

Appointments are recommended; call (413) 748-9511 for more information.

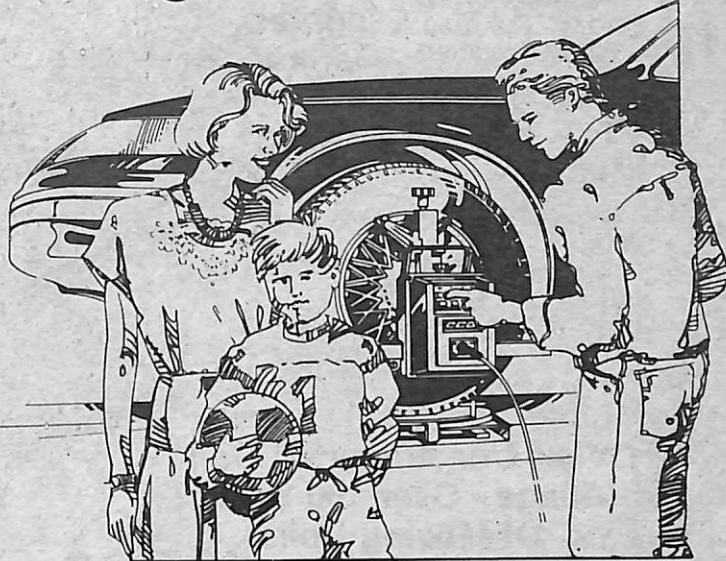
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BF GOODRICH COMP T/A HR4	185/65R15	55.95
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Arts

Creative Drama For Younger Children Being Offered

STAGE has announced that it will begin a new phase of its operation by offering a series of Saturday morning "Creative Dramatics" for four to seven year-olds. This program has been created to answer the growing requests from parents who wish to provide their children with an opportunity for some structured creative play involving drama, music, and movement.

STAGE is an eight year-old organization operated by theatre producers Lyle Pearsons and Margie Secora. Their work as former early elementary teachers and award-winning actor/directors is well-known to area audiences, and their performances as Kit and Kaboodle have made them a popular source of musical and theatrical entertainment throughout New England.

Secora and Pearsons produce 10 to 12 shows a year at The Red Door Theatre, which houses their STAGE Children's Theatre Camps, Teen Ensemble Theatre, and their thriving Hilltop Family Theatre.

"This newest endeavor addresses the needs of young children whose wondrous ability to imagine and pretend will be given a place to channel and flourish," said Pearsons.

An exploratory, fun, "creative play" approach will be emphasized as the children attend five one-hour sessions Saturday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. from November 18th to December 16th.

The fee for the session is \$50 per child, and enrollment is limited. STAGE "Creative Dramatics" will be held at The Red Door Theatre, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. Inquiries for applications may be made by calling (413) 789-2026.

'Musical Giants' Next Program To Staged By Springfield Symphony

The Springfield Symphony Orchestra will be presenting the concert *Musical Giants* at Springfield Symphony Hall on Saturday, November 11th, at 8:00 p.m.

The Orchestra, led by Maestro Mark Russell Smith and joined by violin virtuoso Gregory Fulkerson, will perform Beethoven's *Violin Concerto* and Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 10*. These two pieces, written by composers who lived and worked in very different circumstances, illustrate the fact that giant talents in musical composition are not limited to any one country or era.

Beethoven's only complete concerto for the violin was written during his "middle period"—the years after his ground-breaking *Eroica* Symphony during which he began innovating and experimenting with the Classical traditions of composition. While the *Violin Concerto* was rather neglected in Beethoven's lifetime, it has become a staple of the repertory since Mendelssohn conducted it in a sensationally received performance in 1844.

The concerto was composed for a young prodigy of Beethoven's day, and despite the great technical demands it puts on the violinist, the work was performed successfully at its premiere without a single rehearsal. Guest artist Gregory Fulkerson will not be challenged to repeat this feat, though with his many talents he may well be up to such a task.

Fulkerson, heralded by London's *Daily Telegraph* as "a master both virtuosic and emotional," is one of the most sought-after of the younger generation of American violinists. Rising to international fame as a major exponent of American contemporary music, his career has included debuts in New York, London, Paris, Rome, and Brussels, and performances under the direction of conductors Riccardo Muti, Zdenek Macal, and Bernard Rubenstein.

While Beethoven's concerto was written in a time when arts patrons were discovering a new-found respect for music's power to transcend worldly issues, Shostakovich found in Stalinist Russia that some worldly issues were very difficult to leave behind.

Although Shostakovich's First Symphony won him acclaim at the very start of his career, his innovative style would unfortunately soon earn Stalin's disfavor. Stalin's demand that Soviet music have Socialist themes and eulogize the State suppressed composers' creativity and reduced musical expression to a medium for Soviet propaganda.

Shostakovich composed for over two decades in this inhospitable environment. Then, with Stalin's death in 1953 and resultant hopes for a political "thaw," Shostakovich's innovative spirit was liberated. He produced the Tenth Symphony, which many still regard as his greatest work. In the composer's memoirs after his death, the subject of this symphony was revealed to be "Stalin and the Stalin years."

A discussion of the evening's program will be given by Maestro Smith as part of the *Classical Conversations* series, across the street from Symphony Hall in Old First Church. The talk begins promptly at 7:00 p.m. and is open to the public at no charge.

This concert is sponsored by American Saw and Mfg. Company. Additional funding has been provided in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Business Friends of the Arts.

Seats are still available, ranging from \$6 to \$33, at the Springfield Symphony Orchestra Box Office, 75 Market Place (behind Johnson's), or can be charged by phone at (413) 733-2291.

VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOV. 7TH. If you like the way your town is being run, then reaffirm your faith in your incumbent officials by casting your vote on their behalf. If you wish a change, then vote for a newcomer.

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Mall Rats [R] - 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00

Never Talk To Strangers [R] - 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 7:10, 9:10

Clockers [R] - 12:30, 3:45, 7:30, 9:55

Dangerous Minds [R] - 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:20

Devil In A Blue Dress [R] - 12:20, 2:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:20

Apollo 13 [PG-13] - 12:00, 3:00, 6:50, 9:35

The Scarlet Letter [R] - 12:00, 2:35, 6:45, 9:20

Babe [G] - 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 7:00

Strange Days [R] - 9:00 ONLY!

To Wong Foo [PG-13] - 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:20

Clueless [PG-13] - 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:20

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Sci-Fi Convention Returns To Spfld. November 3rd-5th

From Friday, November 3rd, through Sunday, November 5th, downtown Springfield will be boasting an "otherworldly" flair as Wishcon V, New England's Premier Fan-Run "Star Trek" Media Convention, returns to the Sheraton Monarch Hotel and Towers, One Springfield Place.

This year, the media guests in attendance will be Garrett Wang, who portrays Ensign Harry Kim on the new hit series "Star Trek: Voyager"; Mark Goddard, who played Major West on the now-classic sci-fi television program "Lost in Space"; and actress Mary Tamm, who portrayed Romana I on the long-running British science fiction series "Doctor Who."

In addition, Wishcon V will feature authors Howard Weinstein and John Peel; artist Sonia Hillios; model and effects designer Mike Cuneo; artist/makeup expert Cortlandt Hull; "Trek" lecturer Jeff Mills; Mojo, an FX designer for the series "Babylon 5"; and animator Mark Mitchell.

Wishcon V officially kicks off on Friday, November 3rd, at 3:00 p.m., at which time the two dealers' rooms will be open for business. (There is no admission charge to enter the dealers' rooms on this day.)

Then, the convention gets into full swing on Saturday, November 4th, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m., and on Sunday, November 5th, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

On both of these days, Wishcon V will feature a wide array of events and activities, including the two aforementioned dealers' rooms; an art show; various workshops; a radioplay; panels and autograph sessions with the guests; a model building contest; movie/TV previews; a costume contest; a Saturday night cabaret; a 10 Forward Toga (optional) Party; a Magic Ice Age Tournament; two big charity auctions to benefit several children's charities; a Meet the Pros Party; and more.

Admission to Wishcon V is \$20 for each adult on either Saturday or Sunday; for both days, the adult admission is \$35. Children between five and 10 years of age will be admitted at half price with one adult admission, and children under five years of age are free.

For information regarding reservations and directions to the Springfield Sheraton Monarch Hotel and Towers, call (413) 781-1010. For information regarding any of the events at Wishcon V, call (617) 986-TREK.

For all the local news, you turn our pages every week

"Thirteen Past Midnight" Making Final Showing For Westfield Theatre Group

This weekend marks the final performances of the Westfield Theatre Group's production of "Thirteen Past Midnight." This show is a comedy murder-mystery, written by Billy St. John, and directed by Jay Ducharme.

The group, which is a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, presents this family show in the tradition of a true "Whodunnit?"

The show takes place at the home of producer Victor Winslow, played by Dick Sullivan. He produces the soap opera "Hold Back The Night." He has assembled his cast and crew at his home to play a murder mystery game he has created, based on the characters of the soap opera. However, fun turns to reality when a real murder is committed.

Join the cast within a cast, as they try to solve the crime. It is a fun-filled show, perfect for family entertainment. The final weekend will include performances at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, November 3rd and Saturday, November 4th, with a special matinee on Saturday, November 4th at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for students/seniors. They may be reserved by calling 572-6838. The box office will be open Monday through Thursday from 7:00-9:00 p.m. for anyone wishing to purchase tickets.

The show is supported in part by the Westfield Arts Council, a local agency, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Check our classified pages every week

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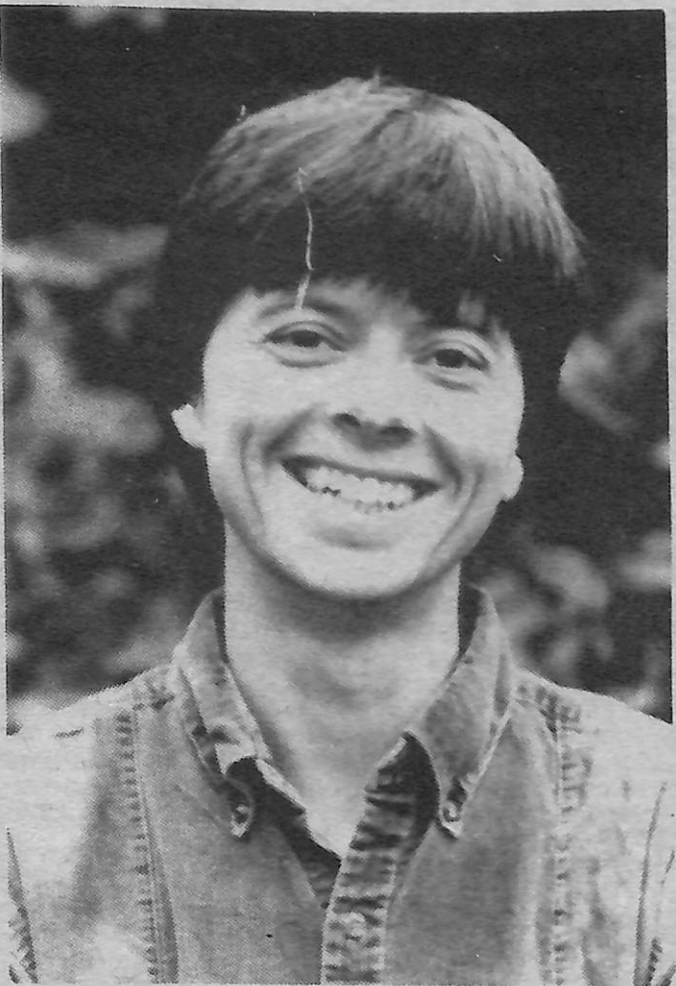
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FILMMAKER KEN BURNS

Filmmaker Ken Burns To Guest Lecture At Public Forum Series On Nov. 7th

As a bonus in celebration of its 60th season of free celebrity lectures, the Springfield Public Forums will present filmmaker Ken Burns in a talk entitled "This Favored Land."

The event, presented in conjunction with WGBY-TV/57 and co-sponsored by Smith Barney, will take place on Tuesday, November 7th, at 7:30 p.m. in Springfield Symphony Hall in downtown Springfield. Steve Bass, vice-president/general manager of WGBY, will chair the evening.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1953, Burns graduated from Hampshire College, where he received a B.A. in Film Studies and Design following work with Jerome Liebling and Elaine Mays. One of his first film efforts, the production *Brooklyn Bridge*, received an Academy Award nomination and Guggenheim Fellowship.

This was followed by *The Shakers: Hands to Work, Hearts to God*, in 1984, and *Huey Long* (an historical portrait of the turbulent Southern demagogue) and *The Statue of Liberty* in 1985.

Two more productions followed in 1988—a biographical portrait of the American regionalist

painter *Thomas Hart Benton*, and a history of *The Congress*, filmed for its Bicentennial on March 4, 1989.

In 1990, Burns' legendary epic, *The Civil War*, was released. The 11-hour, nine-part series—which he produced, directed, filmed, and co-authored—received over 40 awards, including two Emmys, The Peabody, and the duPont-Columbia award. *The New York Times* called it a "masterpiece," and *The Washington Post* referred to it as "heroic television."

Ken Burns was also the director, producer, co-writer, chief cinematographer, music director, and executive producer of the Public Television 1994 series *Baseball*, a film 18½ hours in length covering the history of the sport from the 1840's to the present. This production also received widespread acclaim.

Burns is currently serving as executive producer of a series on the history of the American West, and directing a series of filmed biographies on noteworthy Americans. The first film in the series is on Thomas Jefferson.

Many Popular Children's Picture Books At Agawam Library's Family Storytime

Come share some of the year's most popular picture books and stories in a family storytime on Monday, November 13th at Agawam Public Library, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Agawam and Feeding Hills kids aged four and

up and their parents are invited to share these books, a craft, and have a snack as well, to honor Children's Book Week, November 13th-18th.

Please preregister by calling 789-1550 or stopping by at 750 Cooper Street.

West Point To Be Aired At Museum

Springfield Armory manufactured arms of the highest quality for our soldiers. The U.S. Military Academy at West Point strengthened our soldiers by "Providing the nation with leaders of character who serve the common defense."

Join us Saturday, November 11th at 2:00 p.m. at the Springfield Armory NHS museum. Our guest speaker is Lieutenant Colonel Steven C. Gravlin, Executive Officer of the West Point History Department. By guiding us through a brief history of West Point, one will learn about many celebrated graduates. Among the distinguished veterans are Generals Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant, Douglas MacArthur, and George S. Patton, Jr., as well as Dwight D. Eisenhower and William C. Westmoreland. (No fee.)

Special museum exhibits include "Soldiers of Production," Springfield Armory and the Vietnam Era, and "Buffalo Soldiers." Springfield Armory is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There is no admission charge.

"Vets 95" is "three days of gala events honoring our veterans" from Friday, November 10th through Sunday, November 12th. Events range from a Veterans Day Parade to a Veterans Ball On The Mall. Participating Springfield groups include the Civic Center, Symphony Hall, and Stage West.

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Huge Folk Art Show To Be Showcased At BIG E Nov. 3-5

The nation's leading folk art and crafts show returns to Massachusetts! The Eastern States Exposition (The Big E) will once again host the COUNTRY FOLK ART® SHOW & SALE in the Young Building this weekend (November 3rd through 5th).

Admission is \$6 on Friday, November 3rd, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., and \$5 on Saturday and Sunday, November 4th and 5th, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Children under 10 years of age will be admitted for \$2. (The public is welcome and encouraged to attend on Friday for Early Buying Privileges.)

Since colonial times, Americans have valued quality and tradition. COUNTRY FOLK ART® SHOWS, INC. carries on these values and traditions of quality, handcrafted folk art, indicative of the best craftsmanship, materials, and techniques.

From humble beginnings, COUNTRY FOLK ART® SHOWS, INC. has developed a following of artisans from across the nation and Canada eager to participate in these prestigious shows. Every participant is juried and hand-selected for their outstanding workmanship and integrity of creative design.

Among the items to be sold at this show are country and painted furniture; folk art paintings, calendars, greeting and note cards; pottery and stoneware; baskets; woodcrafts; quilts; blacksmith dolls and toys; pierced and stenciled lampshades; miniatures; teddy bears; tole painting; rag and braided rugs; carvings; dried florals; country clothing, accessories, and textiles; gourmet delights and thousands more handmade and unique decorating and gift-giving, affordably-priced creations, including French Country, Primitive Country, Americana, and Victorian. Items may vary, and all will be beautifully displayed and sold in three-sided, country room setting booths.

Folk art is forever gaining in popularity. To meet the demand for accessories and collectibles from Appalachian style baskets to whimsical whirligigs, only the best, top-quality artisans/exhibitors in the nation will offer hundreds of the finest folk art and craft items.

The phenomenal success of COUNTRY FOLK ART® SHOWS, INC. generated the creation of LONG PUBLICATIONS, publishers of the popular monthly Country Folk Art Magazine™ and bimonthly Yippy-Yi-Yea Magazine™.

For more information on either COUNTRY FOLK ART® SHOWS or LONG PUBLICATIONS, please write: 8393 E. Holly Road, Holly, MI 48442; or call (810) 634-4151.

STAGE To Present "Babes In Toyland"

It's every child's dream - a magical potion that brings toys to life. Lyle Pearsons, as the Toymaster, creates just such a potion in STAGE's upcoming children's production, "Babes In Toyland."

But as the characters from Mother Goose Land, who visit the Toymaster find out, where there is good, there can be evil. So it is in the zany adaptation of Glen MacDonough's classic. Uncle Barnaby, played by STAGE veteran Corey Lagunowich, discovers that with the potion he can control the toy soldiers of Toyland and use them to his evil advantage. Who will succeed? Will all the babes in Toyland be turned to stone? Will the "thing" in the forest spin its web of doom about our favorite nurseryrhyme characters? Will Christmas come to an end when Barnaby takes control? These questions are wrapped up in the exciting adventures of "Babes In Toyland" to be presented at The Red Door Theatre, 152 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills, MA.

The cast includes young people seven through 15 from area towns who have been participating in STAGE's six-week after-school drama camp. They are Ricky Avont, John Albano, Tiffany Blackman, Scott and Timmy Brown, Erica Gionfriddo, Jessica Hamilton, Corey Lagunowich, Wesley LaVoie, Katie Lewantowicz, Sarah Longtin, Nicole Messmer, Rachael Nisenkier, Jaime and Tyler Pearsons, Jessica Phillips, Bethany Richardson, Madeline Ross, Zack Rheault, Anthony Santos, and Michelle Schroth.

The production about children, by children, and for children is scheduled for November 10th and 11th at 7:30 p.m. and November 11th and 12th at 2:00 p.m. All tickets are \$4 and reservations should be made by calling 789-2026.

Small FryDay At Children's Museum

Continuing with the format that has worked so well for the past six years, each Friday morning from 9:30 to 12:00, the Children's Museum hosts Small FryDay.

This is a time for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers to enjoy the museum without large groups present. Special workshops are held each week. Workshops on the first Friday of each month focus on science in the museum's continuing effort to encourage an interest in science at an early age.

Workshop fee is \$2.50 per child for non-members; \$2 per child for members.

Reservations are necessary, and can be made the week of the workshop.

Friday, Nov. 3rd, 10-Finger Science workshops at 10:45 and 11:30 - "THE WORMS CRAWL IN..." is a fun look at what's in the soil, with some "edible" dirt to try. For ages 3 to 5.

Friday, Nov. 10th, 10:45 and 11:30 - "Put on your engineer's cap and pull the train whistle. It's time for "CHOO CHOO CH'BOOGIE!" An all-time favorite Small Friday returns. Make your own boxcar and take an imaginary train ride. For ages 3 to 5.

Friday, Nov. 17th, 10:45 and 11:30 - With "TURKEY TIME" just around the corner, it's a good time to gobble. Create your very own Tom Turkey to bring home. For ages 3 to 5.

Friday, Nov. 24th - NO SMALL FRIDAY.

Experience the magic of Small Fryday at The Children's Museum at Holyoke. The museum is open Tuesday - Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$3 per person. Children under one are admitted free.

For more information, call 536-KIDS.

VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOV. 7TH. *If you like the way your town is being run, then reaffirm your faith in your incumbent officials by casting your vote on their behalf. If you wish a change, then vote for a newcomer.*

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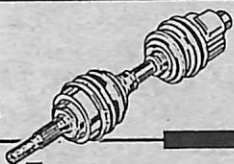


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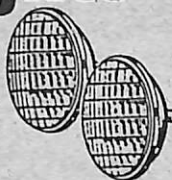
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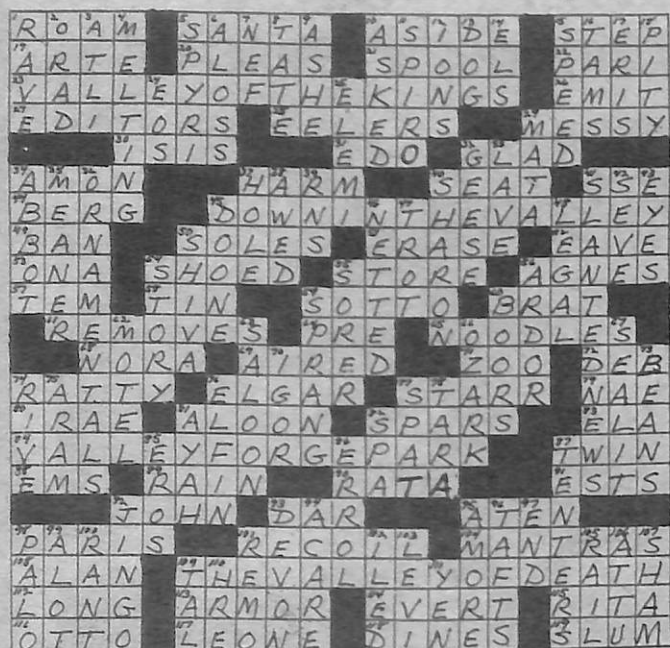
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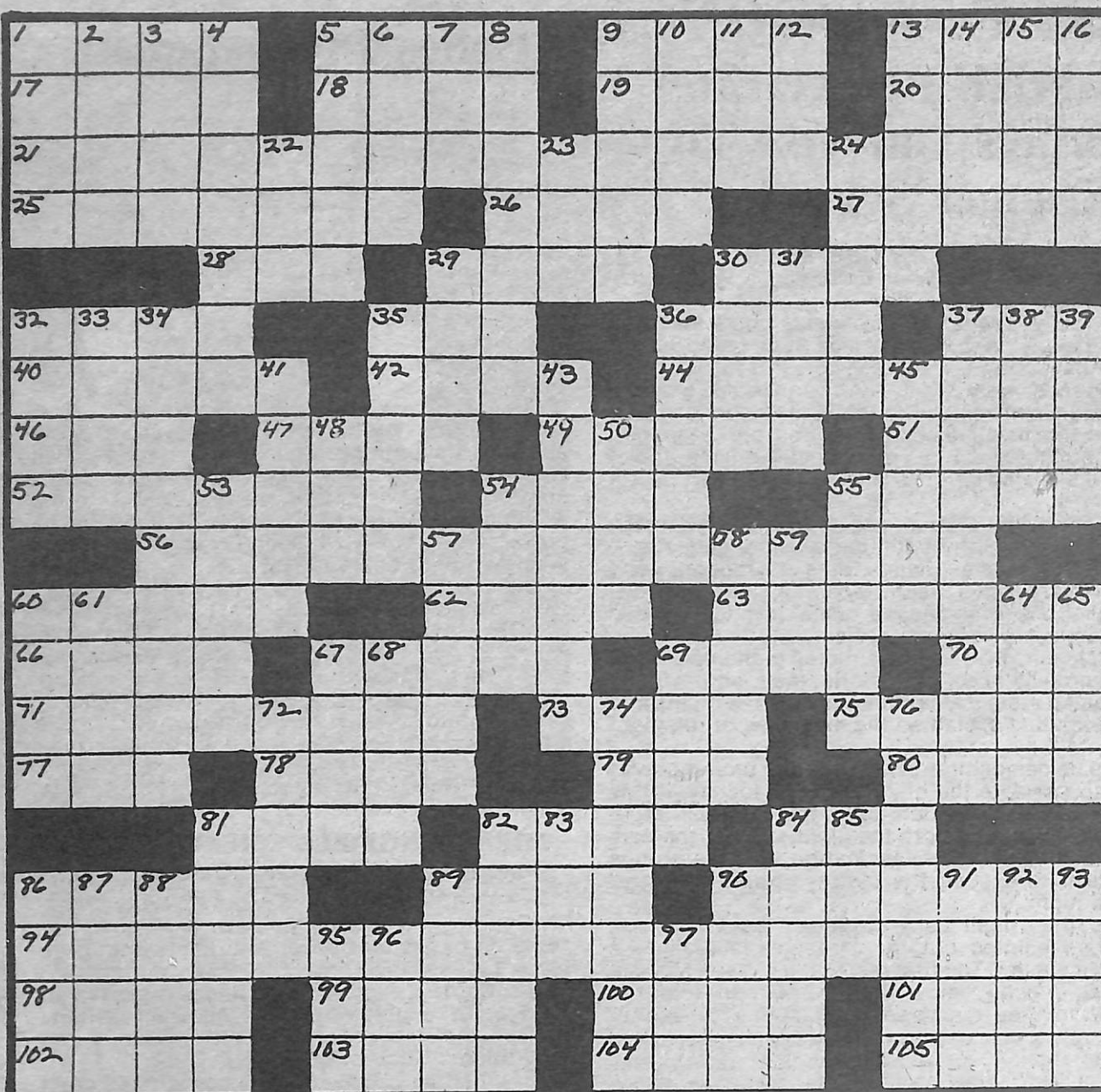


ACROSS

1 Forbidden
5 Wag
9 "Back to the Future" villain
13 Merganser
17 "A --- Adam"
18 Sandusky's waterfront
19 Taj Mahal city
20 Cob or stag
21 5° once
25 Notched
26 Cuchulainn's wife
27 True up
28 Wanted poster abbr.
29 Exam type
30 African cape fox
32 Bone knit covering
35 "We --- not amused"
36 Leave out
37 Cumberland follow-er
40 Treats spuds
42 Roams around
44 Distressed event
46 Arrange (abbr.)
47 Like a rail descriptive
49 Smith and Capshaw
51 In the manner of
52 More like reptilian eyes
54 Ballesteros
55 Winter rain
56 Cover the board words
60 French artists
62 Gym tiles
63 Bring together
66 Newspaper announcement
67 "Common Sense" author
69 Actor Penn
70 Bush just left it
71 Bedroom fixtures
73 Pro ---
75 Jewish feast
77 Babylonian number
78 Macaws
79 Insp. Dreyfuss portrayer
80 D-Day craft
81 Heal
82 Bark cloth
84 Turkish title
86 "Red as ---"
89 Evening in Italia
90 Took a hockey penalty
94 Main Street must, once
98 Arkin the actor
99 Broadway illuminator
100 Region
101 A great one
102 Descartes
103 Catch sight of
104 Clairvoyant
105 Breton
DOWN
1 Makes lace

2 Arthur of the courts
3 Coffin
4 Open
5 Jal alai basket
6 Funnyman Johnson
7 "--- Grande"
8 Gave in to
9 Hard roll
10 Stravinsky
11 "To and ---"
12 Rock pets for one
13 "Let a --- be your umbrella"
14 Men bearing gifts
15 Verve
16 "We --- only fooling"
22 Hard wood
23 MD's org.
24 Hindu
29 Algerian port
30 French friend
31 Guinness and A.C. Doyle
32 Word for Dennis' Mr. Wilson
33 Wales river
34 More thin
35 "I want --- just like the..."
36 Frequent
37 Coastal batterers
38 All (Ger.)
39 Moss that burns
41 Cut back on
43 Pesty biters to some
45 Drawing room
48 Aware of (slang)
50 Actress Gardner et al
53 Loses weight
54 Read a price bar
55 Avoids
57 Not right
58 "Life is but a ---"
59 Mer to Debussy
60 Modernists for shor
61 Narrow pass
64 Weight allowance
65 What little pitchers have
67 Persian sprite
68 "I smell ---"
69 Portico
72 Anita or Clara
74 Andes wool producers
76 Rubber band
81 N. Hampshire's granite city
82 "--- bopper"
83 Valliant's son
84 Sacrificial slang
85 Converse (slang)
86 At a distance
87 Cholera
88 Welsh name
89 Sign at a corner
90 Small dagger
91 "--- to" (stopped)
92 Pertaining to a notable time
93 Senior golfer Jim
95 Compass heading
96 "--- Plaines"
97 Before

MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni



Mystery Activity At Agawam Library For Children Ages 5 & Up On Nov. 18th

Agawam and Feeding Hills children aged five and up are invited to come to the Agawam Public Library on Saturday, November 18th, anytime between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to the library. As you check out a book, you'll be given a special something to participate in our mystery

activity. Everyone who participates will have a chance at something even better.

We can't tell you any more, so if you're curious, call 789-1550 or stop by at 750 Cooper Street to register.

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Education

Starlab Planetarium Brings Universe To Granger School

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

If you're wondering why wishing on a star isn't particularly effective, the kids at Granger School may have the answer.

After a visit from the Springfield Science Museum's travelling Starlab Planetarium, the kids know that if you're using that tired, old "star light, star bright—first star I see tonight" advice, you're probably wishing on a planet—Jupiter to be exact.

Planetarium staffers Steve Nathan and Melvin McLaurin recently spent four days bringing starry, starry nights to all the students at Granger. Along with their teacher, each class was invited to crawl through the igloo-shaped tunnel into the inflated dome housing the star projector.

Inside the Starlab, the children gathered around the projector as prehistoric men and women gathered around a campfire to hear the myths and legends that explained the mysteries of the night sky.

As he demonstrated how the star projector was set to simulate the night sky seen locally at this time of year, Nathan took the children on a journey spanning both the night sky and the centuries of humanity's fascination with the stories devised to explain the pictures found overhead each night.

As the "night" sky darkened inside Starlab, Nathan pointed out the first star is really the planet Jupiter. The first real star is the red star Antares, directly below Jupiter. Nathan told the children they could see the moons of Jupiter through a pair of binoculars on a clear night. It takes about 40 minutes for the light traveling the 500 million miles from Jupiter to be visible on earth, Nathan said.

To a chorus of "awesome" and "cool," Nathan showed Fred Montesi's fourth grade class how to use the stars in a familiar constellation to find other points of interest in the sky. Using the "pointer stars" of the bowl of the Big Dipper, Nathan found the north star and the chair said to be the throne of an evil queen by the ancient Greeks.

Imaginary Pictures With Stories

Nathan said he tries to stress that the constellations are imaginary pictures with stories

made up by ancient peoples to tell a story or to teach a lesson.

The Starlab Program was made possible at Granger by a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and the National Cultural Council.

Parent Miriam Skolnick, who cowrote the grant with parent Doreen Gildersleeve, said the teachers and parents could choose from three age and grade level appropriate programs: Night Sky, Ancient Greek Skylore, or Pictures in the Sky.

Noting the enthusiasm and the extent of their knowledge of the solar system, McLaurin said, "Some of the kids are really sharp. Their parents have exposed them to the planetarium and they're full of great questions."

McLaurin said he was looking forward to the stories the kids would create as part of the Pictures in the Sky presentation.

"We've had some really great stories," McLaurin said. "One boy used six stars to draw a constellation about an eagle and a lost egg that later hatched."

Mrs. Skolnick said funding for the Starlab was approved last year along with funding for the travelling tidepool program held at Granger last June.

"We couldn't believe we were accepted for both programs," Mrs. Skolnick said. "We won't be eligible for another grant for two years, so we decided to space out the presentations."

Mrs. Skolnick praised the Agawam Public Library for its work in putting together a box of supporting materials for the teachers to use in conjunction with the two programs.

"The response to the Starlab has been very positive," Mrs. Skolnick said. "The kids are really excited about this."



THE SPRINGFIELD SCIENCE MUSEUM brought its travelling Starlab Planetarium to Granger School on Friday, October 27th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Strings Program At Middle School Back In Session

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Last spring, they gathered in the Middle School auditorium with their stringed instruments to plead with the School Committee and the Town Council to restore the funding to keep an orchestral music program alive in Agawam.

Last week, the young musicians unpacked their instruments in the same auditorium for their orientation class with strings instructor Meredith Quitno.

Superintendent of Schools Bernard F. Ryder said the community was blessed that Mrs. Quitno had agreed to conduct the after-school program in addition to her new duties as a full-time music teacher at the Middle School.

Last year, Mrs. Quitno worked as the part-time strings instructor. When her position was cut during budget deliberations, a full-time teaching position was offered to Mrs. Quitno as part of the reorganization of the Music Department.

Ryder said Mrs. Quitno had originally agreed to teach the program beginning in January so that she would have some time to become accustomed to her new duties at the Middle School.

Ryder said he "greatly appreciated" Mrs. Quitno's decision to reconsider taking on the program earlier. "It was very considerate of her," Ryder said.

Last month Associate Superintendent of Schools Donald Charest told the School Committee that although the funding was in place to provide an after-school program for strings students, the School Department had not been successful in attracting a teacher for the twice weekly sessions.

30 Students Signed-Up

Ryder said about 30 students had signed-up for the classes. Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at the Middle School to coincide with the days' late bus service offered for students remaining after school.

Mrs. Quitno told the students she would like to offer classes for her more advanced Junior High and High School students on Wednesday afternoons if their parents could organize a carpool to provide transportation home.

Mrs. Quitno told her students it would be unlikely that they would perform in a Christmas concert this year due to the late start of the program.

"Since there's been a significant delay in beginning the string music program, we will anticipate a smashing string spring fling concert in June," Mrs. Quitno said.

AHS sophomore **Joella Raiche**, a violinist with the Young People's Symphony, said the restoration of the program was particularly important for the younger musicians.

"This means a lot to me because I have four middle school students who take private lessons with me," Joella said. "They'll be able to continue to play with a group and benefit from learning cooperatively."

Joella said playing the violin makes her feel more of a person, especially when putting in the preparation for playing a solo.

"Before you play a solo, you feel great," Joella explained. "It's a big accomplishment to work hard for something. It enhances your self-esteem."

Middle School Begins Collecting Points From Bank Of Boston For Equipment

Agawam Middle School has just begun collecting School Investment Points from Bank of Boston to get FREE educational equipment including Magnavox® audio/visual equipment, Apple® computers, Britannica® encyclopedias, and other high-tech tools through the Investment In Education program sponsored locally by Bank of Boston.

Through this unique program, Bank of Boston has already awarded over \$1.5 million in classroom teaching tools to participating schools.

According to Middle School Principal Kevin Littlefield, "In this program, Bank of Boston gives our school the opportunity to acquire a wide variety of learning tools that we may not otherwise have for our classrooms."

Bank of Boston makes it easy for school supporters to earn School Investment Points by mak-



PARTICIPATING IN THE STRINGS PROGRAM at the Agawam Middle School - top photo - Erin Corbin, Chelsea Long, Sarah Leydon, Michael Noes, Jamie Borkosky, and Kathleen Demetron. Sitting - Joella Raiche. PHOTO BELOW - Kei Fujioka, Jason Kibby, Diane Jensen, Lucy Young, and Catherine Sheehan. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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Here Come The Harlem Wizards To Agawam High School On November 13th

On Monday, November 13th, the Harlem Wizards will be performing their astounding basketball "wizardry" at Agawam High School, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

On Thursday, November 9th, tickets will be sold at AHS from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and again from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Advance tickets are \$5 for students and seniors, and \$6 for adults. Tickets sold at the door on the night of the show will be \$7 each.

If you have any questions or are interested in helping out with this worthwhile event, please call Joann McGeoghan at 786-1982 (evenings) or at 786-5640 (days).

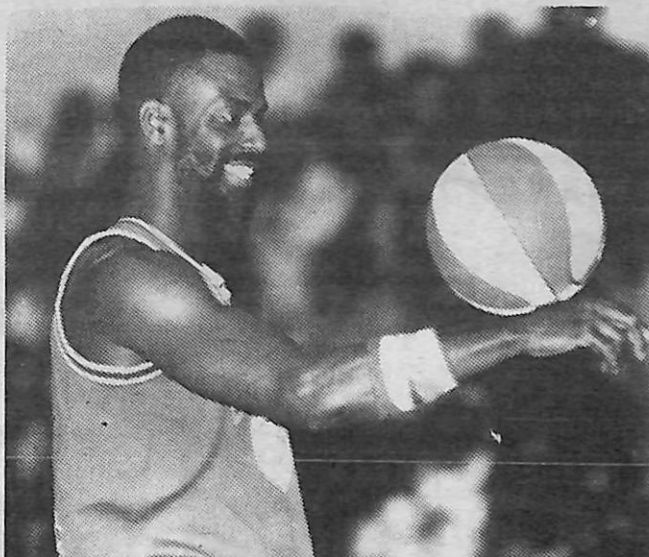
Among the highly talented players on the Harlem Wizards is "Rainbow," who makes sure that you will have a laugh a minute as you watch the antics of his dynamic basketball team.

He holds the distinction of being the most athletic of all the exhibition basketball comedians, and has been one of the Wizards' top court comics for eight years.

"Rainbow" provides unbound vitality, playfulness, and energy, and he contributes to the team's dazzling display of basketball razzmatazz with his side-splitting antics. Your team is often the recipient of his good-natured rib tickling.

Since converting to the Muslim faith, his name is Sayeed Abdul Muntaqim. He is in the record books as Phil Atkinson, the leading scorer and rebounder in the history of John Jay College in New York City. He, along with five female stars, were the first basketball players elected to the School Hall of Fame.

He shoots a high-arching, long-range jumpshot, justly named the "Rainbow Jumpshot."



HARLEM WIZARD MEMBER "Rainbow" will show off his ball-handling wizardry at Agawam High School on November 13th.

In the fourth quarter, "Rainbow" will try a shot that is one of the hardest shots ever attempted in basketball. Remarkably, he makes this shot every other game on the average! (Let's hope this is the right "every other.")

We recommend that you arrive on time because "Rainbow" has been known to question latecomers about the reason for their tardiness!

Annual Parent-Teacher Night At Jr. High Slated For November 20th

On Monday, November 20, 1995, the Agawam Junior High School will conduct its annual Parent/Teacher Conference Night from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. During the week of November 6th, teachers will mail home invitations for these eight-minute individual conferences.

Parents who receive invitations are asked to telephone the guidance office at 789-1400, ext. 482, either Wednesday, November 15th, or Thursday, November 16th, between 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. in order to schedule a time for these conferences. Parents are advised to call promptly to reserve a time that is most convenient for them.

School principal Kevin C. Littlefield states that parents who do not receive an invitation but still wish to see an individual teacher should contact the guidance office on Friday, November 17th, between 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., as a limited

number of appointments have been made available for those parents.

He points out that any parent calling on Friday but not able to schedule an appointment for November 20th, will receive a call from the teacher in order to discuss their child's current academic standing.

Mr. Littlefield explains that the conference night format was developed by the staff as a means of eliminating overcrowded conditions and long waiting lines. Also, he believes that communication is more effective during these lengthier appointments.

Mr. Littlefield invites parents to keep in close contact with the school's guidance counselors and teachers in order to monitor their child's progress throughout the academic year.

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, November 6th: Cheese pizza, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and creamy dressing, chilled mixed fruit cup, milk.

Tuesday, November 7th: Oven-baked chicken nuggets with dipping sauce, seasoned diced carrots, cinnamon applesauce, jello with topping, milk.

Wednesday, November 8th: Meatball sandwich in roll with tomato sauce, niblet corn, pear macaroon, milk.

Thursday, November 9th: Oven-roast turkey, whipped potatoes, sweet peas & carrots, dinner rolls, cranberry sauce, New England-style apple crisp, milk.

Friday, November 10th: Veterans' Day (no school).

* **REMINDER:** Elementary lunch is \$1/per day or \$5/weekly.

(NOTE: Please remember to purchase your tickets on Mondays for the week. Personal checks are accepted, payable to: The Agawam School Lunch.)

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Sports

Western Mass. Tourney Opening Round...

AHS Field Hockey Gives Yeoman's Effort In 3-2 Loss To Northampton

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

If you are meat-and-potatoes type of sports fan who likes nonstop action, good offense, tenacious defense, excitement, and drama, you would have gotten your fill at the Agawam High/Northampton High field hockey game Tuesday afternoon. It was a first-round game in the Western Mass field hockey playoffs. Agawam came in as the 11th seed. 'Hamp was sixth.

The Blue Devils won it, 3-2. But the issue was always in doubt, though. It was tied two-all after regulation. What followed was a 30-minute overtime; a 15-minute, seven-on-seven battle; and ultimately it was penalty shots that decided the final outcome.

Agawam just got into the tournament by the skin of its teeth. But you would never have known it by the way they played. The Brownies were on the fly, playing end-to-end field hockey. And they were doing it without one of their stars, co-captain Alison Pratt, who was too ill to play, and Michele O'Connor, who got sick during the game and wasn't 100 percent. But, as Coach Cindy Grieve noted, "Michele did what she could."

So, a bunch of players took up the slack, including Stephanie Fleming, Pam Eaton, and Jill Pavelcsyk. Those three were always around the 'Hamp net taking shots, making passes, and generally making life miserable for keeper Stacy Cichaski.

The Brownie 'D' was also stoked up for this one. As always, they were led by co-captain Becky Wing, who had help from Gina Cincotta. And they weren't intimidated in the least by the three boys Northampton had on its squad.

That gutsy play paid off at the 7:30 mark of the first half with a score. It came about the way many goals do in field hockey; that is, out of a mob scene in front of the net. Sticks were flailing; players were going down; the goalie was screen-

ed. And Amy Bilodeau emerged from the melee, stick held high, celebrating her goal. Rejoicing right along with her were the Brownie faithful, who showed up for the game in good voice and good numbers.

Grieve, who was coaching like crazy, almost did a backflip when the ball went in.

"Laying The Body" On The Blue Devils...

With 5:45 to go, the Brownies started to lay the body on the Blue Devil attackers. Wing and Christine Mazeika teamed up with four minutes left to shut down a 'Hamp rush.

Northampton's Jose Molina used some muscle with 3:10 in the half to ring up his team's first goal from 15 feet in front of the Agawam net.

The half ended one apiece. Agawam had seven shots on goal. 'Hamp registered two.

The Brownies came out in the second half as fired up as they'd been in the first. Giroux and Stephanie Fleming were turning in some spirited midfield work at the start of play. The Fleming sisters almost scored on an Agawam corner shot with three minutes gone.

At the 26:12 mark, they did. It came on a free shot—a rocket off one of the hardest strikers of the ball in Western Mass, Becky Wing. She took it from 50 feet out. The 'Hamp keeper never had a chance. It stood at 2-1, Brownies.

Molina, not liking the situation, tried some more bull work down the right side right after the goal. Mazeika and Bianca knocked him around and shut him down.

It should also be mentioned that Brownie keeper Kirsten Decoteau was making some nice knockout saves.

Then, 'Hamp turned up the pressure at the 16-minute mark. That intense action would last for most of the balance of the half. Amy Bilodeau was performing above and beyond the call of duty, as

she continually either hit or dribbled the ball out of the Brownie zone. The Blue Devils would then proceed to bring it right back in.

Finally, the constant pressure got to the Agawam defenders. 'Hamp's Matt Walsh tied it at two with 3:20 on the clock.

It ended that way in regulation. Now it was sweaty palm time for the Brownie faithful, who (after watching their team's spirited and gutsy play) were thinking a tourney win might be a distinct possibility.

The Game In "Overtime"...

The first 30-minute, sudden-death overtime was scoreless. Then the format called for a seven-on-seven, 15-minute, sudden-death period. Grieve started Melissa Fleming, Pam Eaton, Wing, Mazeika, Bilodeau, and Stephanie Fleming.

Northampton put all the offensive pressure on them that one team could possibly do. Agawam held the line.

Finally, as the day was getting seriously dark and the spectators started to include bats and owls, they commenced the shootout with penalty strokes. They would take the shots from 20 feet out.

Each team ended up with four attempts. The Blue Devils would end the drama when Jose Molina got the game-winner.

The Brownies were down after it went into the record books. To her credit, Grieve told them not to forget their traditional post-game run around the field. They all took off and did just that.

"Each kid rose up and gave that extra effort. It's something we concentrated on all year long—trying to be a little bit better everyday. We played very well. The outcome could have been different."

Agawam finished its season at 6-7-2. Northampton (8-3-6) goes on to play Athol.

Daggett Gymnasts Continue To Flourish At Area Meet

Pioneer Gymnastics hosted its second Sectional Qualifying Meet of the season, and with it, more of the Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics girls achieved qualifying scores above the minimum 31.

The Level Five qualifiers were Katie Farley (32.7), Rebecca Langlands (32.0), and Marjorie Moriarty (31.2).

At Level Six, Shannon DelGiudice qualified with a 32.5, and scored fourth individually in both Bars (8.1) and Floor (8.6).

Also competing was Christine Hill, who scored 30.5 in this, her first meet. She, as all of the above girls, shows a great deal of promise, and their coaches, headed by Joe Salmeri, have a great deal of faith in their future as gymnasts.

Agawam Parks & Rec. Is Seeking Water Safety Instructor

Applications are currently being accepted at the Agawam Parks & Recreation Department for Water Safety Instructor: current WSI, LGT, First Aid & CPR certifications a must.

Applications may be picked up at and returned to the Agawam Parks & Recreation Office, 760 Cooper St., Agawam, MA 01001.

Deadline for returning applications is November 17, 1995.

For more information, call the Agawam Recreation Department at 786-0400, ext. 456.

The Town of Agawam is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and actively seeks applications from women and minorities.

Brownie Booters Qualify For Tourney After Bomber Win

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Yogi Berra once uttered the immortal line, "It ain't over 'till it's over." Someone, I forgot who now, put it another way: "It isn't over until the fat lady sings."

Berra was nowhere to be seen at Westfield High's Bullens Field Monday night, nor was the fat lady. Maybe she was down at the diet center because the Agawam High boys' 2-0 soccer win against the Bombers was indeed over as soon as the Brownies took the field.

Agawam finished the regular season at 8-8-2 and 6-7-2 in the Moriarty.

The Brownies received the eighth seed in the tournament and will actually host an opening round game on Saturday, November 4th, at Harmon Smith Field vs. Amherst. Game time is 2:00 p.m.

Agawam had all the motivation any group of players could possibly have—a chance (with a win) for the first time in nine years, to attend the Western Mass playoffs as more than spectators. Sometimes in life opportunities slip through our fingers. The Brownies had every opportunity they would need all night long right at their feet, so to speak.

The first Agawam score came with a mere 51 seconds gone in the contest and demonstrated why Agawam wouldn't drop this game. It was a group project. Agawam was in a full attack mode.

Mike Domaingue started it off. He was flying 50 feet out in the center of the Bomber zone, controlling the ball like it was tethered to his foot. A passing lane opened up to his right and Todd Godfrey glided right into it.

Domaingue, a good passer, laid it on Todd's toe. Todd, looking to work the ball in closer to

Westfield's net, spotted Jeff Rousseau where he always seems to be, right in front of the opposition's goal.

In a bang-bang play, Godfrey passed the ball to Rousseau, who dumped it out to Chris Chechile. He was charging from 50 feet out on the right wing.

Chechile's shot didn't have a whole lot of mustard on it. But the placement was perfect. He beat Bomber keeper Cory Dubuque to the far left side. Even someone who couldn't tell a soccer ball from a matzo ball would have loved that performance.

It was Chechile's sixth goal of the season and Rousseau's first assist.

The Bombers Were Outclassed...

Westfield, which had already lost 3-0 to Agawam earlier in the year, and came in at 2-12-3 and 0-12-3 in the Moriarty, was simply outclassed. They could manage only one shot on the Brownie net in the first half. Their game total was four. Agawam had twice that number.

There were so many outstanding performances for the Brownies in this one, that you might as well credit the whole roster. The Agawam passing game has to be featured. They were also heading more shots than they had in the entire season.

Marcos Damus was a sparkplug. Once again, Chris Bitzas played solid and intelligent defense. Rousseau was sick. But he'd have to be on life support to miss a game. All the Brownies were quick to the ball. And when two guys met at the ball at the same time, the Bombers seemed to pull off the play.

The second Agawam goal arrived with 17:39 to play in the first half. This was an unassisted 40-foot laser beam from directly out front by Todd Jorgenson. It was his fifth of the season.

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AHS FIELD HOCKEY COACH Cindy Grieve calls Ann Marie Bianca (left) and Melissa Fleming two of her unsung heroes in 1995.

Bianca & Fleming Unsung Heroes Of AHS Field Hockey

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The dictionary defines "hero" in many ways. Perhaps the best way is this: "an illustrious warrior; one that shows great courage." It also has a definition of the word - **unsung**. It means "not celebrated or praised."

Put them together and you get the term "unsung hero." It seems like the most profound contradiction in the English language. It can apply to many people in many endeavors. It is a fact of life in athletics.

Let me give you some examples. A great running back in football wouldn't run too well if he didn't have some guy or guys, laboring in obscurity, blocking for him. A big-time basketball point-getter wouldn't get those points if someone didn't bust their butt to get the ball to him or her.

It can go on and on. Team sports demand people who labor in obscurity. Former Bruins hockey Coach Don Cherry used to call these people members of the "Lunch Pail Athletic Club." These athletes put on the blue collar and go out and play. They are people who are noticed by the ones who count - the coaches, the experts (in whatever sport they might be in), and folks in the stands who totally understand the sport they are watching.

We asked Agawam High field hockey Coach Cindy Grieve about her unsung heroes. She was quick with an answer. "Ann Marie Bianca and Melissa Fleming."

Her read on Ann Marie: "She plays defense. She takes it one step up the ladder. When the varsity is getting ready to play, Ann Marie is over on the sidelines, practicing. She has a lot of drive and desire."

Grieve went on. "Ann Marie had mononucleosis last season and missed a lot of playing time. She is trying to catch up. She shows up every day and gives it everything she has. I'm a little tougher on her than I might be on the other kids because I know how much she wants to excel."

Lack Of Recognition Doesn't Bother Her

Ann Marie has her own thoughts. She doesn't care if no one recognizes her efforts. "Not really," she says. "I just want to play. I love this game."

The reason she doesn't worry about the lack of overall recognition is pretty straightforward. "I know I'm recognized by the people who count - my coaches, my teammates, and the players who might not know me at all." She was referring to the opponents. "They don't know much about me and my ability. But when we start to play, they take notice."

Grieve talked about Melissa. "This is only her second year as a starter. She used to be a cheerleader. She hates to lose. And she lacks the experience of some of the other kids. She makes up for what she lacks in the basic skills of the game by just being tough and focused."

Melissa answered the question in a different way. "I get a little recognition. I feel I deserve more. But I also understand what my role is on this team."

What is their motivation to play without the ink? Ann Marie tells it like this. "I love to play this game. I'm looking forward to playing it in college."

Melissa has her own reasons. "I want to be the best field hockey player I can be. I also want to be part of the Agawam field hockey family. I get a great feeling of encouragement from the other players, every time we win."

Chicopee Comp Another Of Those Opponents AHS Football Can Beat

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam football Brownies are on firmer ground after their nailbiting, 27-22 AA Conference win over Cathedral last Friday night. Their next foe is Chicopee Comp at Harmon Smith Field this Friday evening.

The Colts will come into this one at 2-4 and 2-2 in the AA Conference. They are also coming off a big 47-28 loss to AA powerhouse Holyoke. The Brownies fell 24-6 to the Purple Knights earlier in the year.

Michael Birk is Agawam's head scout. He was on hand for Comp's swan dive against Holyoke. That loss could have been really ugly. But Holyoke superstar Cedric Washington played barely a half because of a leg injury.

"They (Comp) have a weird offense," Birk noted. "They have more formations than most teams: double tight ends, an unbalanced line, twin wideouts on occasion, and of course, a pro-set. They will definitely try to confuse us when they have the ball. They aren't intimidators like Amherst or South Hadley."

The coach did see a definite chink in the Comp armor, though. "They run a 5-2 and on occasion a 6-2 on defense. From watching them, I think (Phil) McGeoghan and (Brian) Menard could have some big numbers in the pass reception department."

Another Element To Be Aware Of...

Then he mentioned another element that might factor into the equation. "They aren't big and they don't blitz. We should be able to turn that into a positive for both our offense and defense."

Brownie Football Holds On To Beat Cathedral & Snap Skid

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Agawam star fullback Dom Pisano put it best last Tuesday evening when he and soccer players Chris Chechile and Jim Baldyga were watching the Brownie girls' soccer team being eliminated from the Western Mass tourney by Longmeadow. "We will not lose to Cathedral," said Pisano. He was, of course, referring to the upcoming contest against the Panthers that Friday night.

Agawam, which at the time had fumbled, stumbled, and penalized itself all season long, was sporting a 2-4 (0-3 AA Conference) record. But on this night, Pisano was right on. Cathedral hadn't tasted a win all season long, coming in at 0-5 (0-3 in the AA). A 27-22 Brownie triumph insured they still wouldn't get the taste.

The difference between the two teams was simple. Agawam had been in most of their losses (except South Hadley). Cathedral had mostly been in a coma during their bagel-bitten campaign.

In this one, the Agawam 'D' came literally like thieves in the night. Those thieves were Jeff Harlin, Chris Day, and Phil McGeoghan. Their interceptions set the table for three first-half scores.

The Panthers were trying to work the inside zones. Harlin and McGeoghan have fine speed. Day has good instincts for the ball. He would get the first interception at the three-minute mark in the first quarter and run it in for a 10-yard score. The extra point made it 7-0, Brownies.

The second Agawam score came in the second quarter. This time the Brownie defense did just about all one unit could do to get their offensive club over the goal line.

QB Harlin (7-10, 117 yards) hit wideout McGeoghan (two catches, 55, one TD) for 35 to the Agawam 48. Junior running back Jeff Blews (5-30), who takes a lot of pressure off of Pisano, carried the ball twice for 11 yards. Pisano (18 carries, 118 yards, two TD's to raise his season total to eight and with a two-point conversion, raised his point total to 50) made nine more. Then the Brownies fumbled.

It was Cathedral's ball at its 15-yard line. Andrew Markowski and Mike Perry came up with a big play to stop the Panthers on a five-yard gain.

Then, with third and five on their own 20 in the second quarter, Harlin got his pick. Pisano immediately took advantage of the good times and sprinted 13 yards off tackle, putting the Brownies up, 13-0. (The kick failed.)

The Panthers Get Desperate...

Cathedral, suddenly seeing that bagel in the left-hand column threatening to enlarge, got a little desperate. With 9:20 left in the half, 5'9", 160-pound running back, Nick David (29 carries, 140 yards, one TD) lugged it in from three yards out. Nick then ran for two. It was 14-8 Agawam. But the Brownies' first-half work wasn't done.

McGeoghan, who has 4.5 speed, knew the Panthers were pumped to pass the ball. With time running out and his man failing to execute any kind

Cathedral ran well on them. We should be able to do that as well."

That statement makes a lot of sense. Usually teams which lack size try and utilize some tricky sets to sneak up on opponents.

One player for Agawam the coach feels the Brownie faithful should watch is running back Jeff Blews. "Jeff is a hard-nosed kid. He played in pain against Cathedral because he dropped a snowmobile on his foot earlier in the week."

One thing the fans will not see is the 'I-Bone, which the coaches installed into the Agawam offense at the start of the season. "We'll go with the pro-set. The offense we had before just required too many reads and too much motion."

"And if (QB) Jeff Harlin has a good passing week in practice, we will definitely throw the ball," Birk added.

He mentioned that the team's attitude for the upcoming game "is really good. We feel that we can end up at .500 for the year. That would be a nice turnaround."

The locals are currently 2-5 and 1-3 in the AA Conference with three games left.

The injury list looks like this. Linebacker Andrew Ingham, still suffering from his painful calf bruise, is questionable. McGeoghan is all set, even though his back is still a little tender. Senior running back Dom Pisano, who had a small shoulder problem, is ready. Tight end and outstanding defender Mike Perry has a sprained ankle. They will monitor his condition day-by-day in practice.

of fake, McGeoghan cut him off big-time on a duck by Panther signalcaller Brian Laing. There were 33 beats left on the clock when Harlin hit McGeoghan on a 20-yard out and up. It was a pretty play and also a nice finish to a four-play, 83-yard scoring drive.

Agawam led 21-8 at the half. They would need that good defense to pull this one out.

Actually, the second half saw the Panthers get the better of it. Their big problem was the fact that Agawam had its day under the lights in the first 24 minutes.

Laing was able to score from a yard away with 3:31 remaining in the third. Pisano, who'd made the prediction that Agawam wouldn't lose, was backing it up. He got his second score of the game with 1:49 left in the third. It was a bulldozer job. The extra point didn't make it. But now Cathedral had been served notice.

There was 9:35 left in the fourth when the Panthers, putting the ball up for grabs more times than was healthy for them, managed to move the ball to the Brownie two-yard line. A roughing the passer call on the Brownies didn't help their cause.

John Lacey ran it in. He also got the two-point conversion. It was now 27-22, Brownies.

The Brownies Have A Chance...

Agawam now had a chance with 9:30 left. They managed to get the ball down to the Cathedral 22-yard line. The Brownies promptly coughed it up. Then, obviously frustrated, they got hit with an unsportsman-like penalty. That little infraction was good for a 15-yard Cathedral gift.

Agawam got it back in spades, though. The Panthers, driving despite themselves, were penalized twice for 30 yards. They managed to get it to the Brownie 25. They fumbled but recovered. It broke their momentum. They drove the ball to the Agawam five-yard line. Brian Menard came up strong and snuffed out a Panther run. Cathedral then got a five-yard penalty.

With 1:04 left, Cathedral had the ball at the Brownie eight-yard line. It was fourth and goal. The pass (and everyone in Springfield College's Benedum Field knew the play like it was their bank account) saw McGeoghan bat the ball away in the end zone.

That was it. Cathedral, as bad teams often do, found a way to lose. Agawam, for at least a week, could sleep at night.

"We needed this win desperately. We are a much better team than the record we've run up this year," Agawam head Coach Dean Vecchiarelli commented.

The Brownies' next foe will be Chicopee Comp. They beat the Pacers 34-6 up there last season. Currently, Comp is 2-4 and 2-2 in the AA Division.

One good note for the Brownies—after four games on the road, they'll be back at Harmon Smith Field in front of the faithful to confront Comp.

Big Brian Menard A Tough Cookie For AHS Football

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Anybody who knows football will tell you one of the toughest positions to play at every level of the game is tight end.

Its job description reads like this: must be able to block for both the run and the pass; must be able to catch a football in traffic then run with it; and you must be big and strong to do all of the above.

Brian Menard fills that bill. He's a 17 year-old, 6' 2", 225-pound junior on the Agawam High football team. Recently, he took some time out to talk about himself.

He's the son of William & Joanne Menard of Agawam. He is a sales representative for the Coca Cola Company. Joanne is a waitress at Take Five, one of the top restaurants in Agawam. He has a brother, Billy, who is 12 years-old and attends the Middle School. Both parents are well-known in Agawam for their involvement in youth sports.

Brian's favorite subjects at AHS include gym, social studies, history, and fitness science.

His favorite teacher, however, doesn't work at the High School. "She is Mrs. (Valarie) Liptak, my elementary school teacher at Clark School," he says.

Brian is pretty definite on what he likes in his life - "Television, sleeping, eating, and sports," he answered quickly.

He has some healthy dislikes. Drugs and drinking head the list. He has another dislike that's a little further down on the sheet - homework.

Since Brian, like most kids, likes to eat, we wondered exactly what his favorite fare might be. "Chicken parmesan," he replied, not missing a beat. "My mom makes it better than anybody." He's also partial to pizza. "I'll eat it no matter what topping is on it," he admitted.

Also, like most kids, Brian needs to hang out every now and then. "I like the Holyoke Mall. And I also like to go to movies."

That answer brought up another question. What is his favorite movie? "The Program," he replied. And sticking to his penchant for sports, "Coach" is his favorite television show.

What ... No Ferrari??

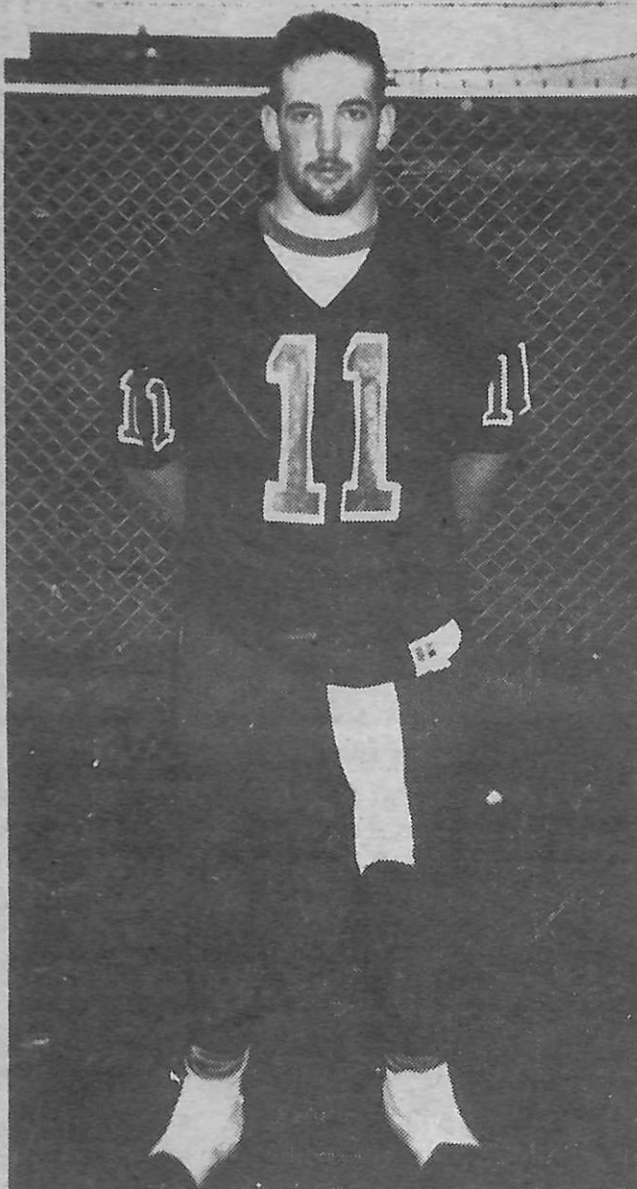
If Brian could tool around Agawam in the vehicle of his choice, according to him it would be a 1995 Chevy Blazer. (Whatever happened to kids wanting a Ferrari, or a Corvette, or a Jag?)

Brian likes the color blue and his favorite outfit is a T-shirt, jogging pants, and Nike basketball shoes.

In a world made up of many people kids could consider heroes, Brian's is close to home - his father.

Brian is an outstanding tight end. Coach Dean Vecchiarelli feels that before his career at AHS is over, he'll be an All-Western Mass. recipient.

Brian looks at his football performance as ob-



BRIAN MENARD, at 225-pounds, is one rugged player for the 1995 Agawam High football team. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

jectively as he can. "I think my strengths are catching the ball and blocking. I also pride myself in giving it everything I have."

He plays both ways, too. Though he didn't mention that, he's a tough, hard hitter at defensive end or linebacker.

He knows he has things to work on. "Everything," he admits. "I have to work all the time to get better."

Football is his favorite sport for the most basic of reasons. "I love the game," he says.

He also plays basketball and baseball. Last season, he was only a sophomore and his playing time was limited. This season, he hopes to see a lot of action in both sports.

He has a read of this year's edition of the football Brownies. "I'm disappointed, like everyone else. I still feel we can change it around and finish strong."

Sportsmen's Corner

—By Bill Chiba—
1003 No. Westfield St.
F.H., MA 01030



Massachusetts Trappers Win Their Long Struggle

Following a six-year legal battle, the Massachusetts Supreme Court rendered a unanimous decision in favor of a padded trap usage.

The legal question was whether the padded-jaw trap is included under the state statute which proclaims, "No person shall use, set, place, or maintain a steel-jaw leghold trap on land for the capture of furbearing animals..."

The five-judge panel obviously believed the padded-jaw trap was not a steel-jawed trap and ruled for the furbearer management and the trapper. Massachusetts is home to abundant populations of raccoon, beaver, coyote, and other furbearers.

The battle over trapping in Massachusetts has raged much more than six years. The court's decision was the culmination of a near 20-year dogfight between trappers and the animal rights mob.

Rick Story, WLFA vice-president, says, "This shows what perseverance and a bulldog effort can do in fighting for what's right. The nation's sportsmen salute the sportsmen of Massachusetts who stayed in the trenches so long and kept their eyes on the prize."

Situation Serious In Massachusetts

Wayne F. McCallum, Massachusetts Fisheries and Wildlife Director, said the situation here is very serious. The animal rights group called Protect Pets and Wildlife (ProPaw) has stated the following in a letter to Massachusetts activists:

"...I would like to officially introduce you to ... our campaign to place a wildlife protection question before Massachusetts voters on the 1996 statewide ballot."

Ten citizens, coordinated by ProPaw, have filed with the Massachusetts Attorney General a petition to prohibit cruel traps, to end the chasing and hunting of bears and bobcats with dogs, and to eliminate the statutory requirement that hunters and trappers control the Fisheries and Wildlife Board.

If this initiative petition is signed by 65,000 registered voters in the next few months, it will be well on its way to the 1996 ballot.

The WLFA has been participating in strategy sessions with officials and sportsmen from Massachusetts. President Richard Pierce journeyed there in mid-September and had this to say: "The problem here is Massachusetts. It's nearly all urban, so the sledding gets tough for the sportsmen."

There it is, fellows; if we lose the Division of Fisheries and Game Department to the anti's, we might as well sell our guns and fishing equipment to people in states below us and north of us.

I think the first step is to inform your families and relatives not to sign the petition to put the takeover of the Department to a ballot vote because it is under the guise of the leghold trap petition.

The axe is coming down. If you love your hunting and fishing, it is up to every licenseholder in the state; if we don't we better take up golf.

Agawam Soccer Assoc. STANDINGS (As Of October 30, 1995)

UNDER 10 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Davilli's Maroon Maniacs	5	0	2	12
Ruhl's Tigers	5	0	1	11
Santaniello's Grasshoppers	4	3	2	10
Patrick's Red Devils	3	2	3	9
Kelly's Golden Girls	3	3	3	9
Adam's L. Blue Angels	2	6	2	6
Dobise's Blue Lightning	0	8	1	1

UNDER 12 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Douglas' Red Devils	6	2	0	12
Spear's Blue Lightning	5	2	2	12
Davilli's Cranberry Cougars	5	3	2	12
Francis' Lady Bugs	3	5	1	7
Prisby's Golden Eagles	0	7	1	1

UNDER 14 COED	W	L	T	P
Fleming's Golden Girls	9	0	0	18
Shaw's Orange Crushers	4	3	2	10
Rosinski's Blue Raiders	4	4	2	10
Ellsworth's Red	3	4	1	7
Gremza's Green Machine	1	5	1	3
Francis' Maroon Maniacs	0	5	2	2

UNDER 17 COED	W	L	T	P
Cincotta's Big Green	4	1	2	10
Heneghan's Rotten Oranges	2	1	4	8
Blair's Golden Eagles	2	3	2	6
Brinn's Blue	1	4	2	4

Agawam Soccer Assoc. Boys' Standings (As Of October 29, 1995)

U-10 BOYS	W	L	T	P
Lyons' Hawks	7	1	1	15
Roos' Yellow Jackets	7	0	0	14
Martin's Blue Tornadoes	5	2	2	12
Harlow's Green Gators	5	5	1	11
Jacks' White Lightning	3	4	3	9
Federico's Blue Dudes	2	3	4	8
Deglis' Panthers	1	3	5	7
Meyers' Orange Flames	3	5	1	7
Henry's Blue Lightning	2	4	2	6
Campana's Rockets	0	8	1	1

U-12 BOYS	W	L	T	P
Fleming's Green Hornets	9	0	0	18
Mouneimneh's Hurricanes	5	2	1	11
Summers' Cranberry Crushers	3	3	2	8
Rosenberg's Sun Devils	1	4	2	4
Adamski's	1	7	1	3

For glossy copies of photos in this edition, please call Jack Devine at 789-0053.

AHS Frosh & JV Roundup

by Christian DeBonville
Advertiser News Correspondent

FRESHMAN FOOTBALL

Last Friday at Phelps Field, the Agawam Brownies freshman football team fumbled six times, but still managed to earn a 14-14 tie against Cathedral in a sloppy game.

Cathedral got on the board first and were leading in the second when Agawam QB Mike Buoniconti scampered 10 yards for a TD. The failed conversion pass kept it at 7-6 Cathedral. A Panther touchdown before the half had the Brownies on the short end of a 14-6 score.

In the third, Buoniconti brought a punt back 60 yards, and Wayne Paradysz's conversion run tied it at 14 apiece.

Agawam had many chances to win it, but fumbles and penalties kicked all chances. For the Brownies, Wayne Paradysz and Brian Gallagher played well at the running back positions. Marc Pedraza made a fumble recovery, and the defense was led by Bobby Fuller, Buoniconti, Eric Preston, Pete Alsis, and Mike Wood.

Now 3-2-1, Agawam meets Comp in a road game on Friday, November 3rd.

JV FOOTBALL

The JV football team got back on the winning track this Monday with a convincing 14-0 victory over Cathedral, their third shutout of the season.

The Brownies (5-2) started the scoring when George Graves ran 45 yards off the right side in the third quarter. QB Eric Melbourne hit Norm Gagne for the conversion and a 8-0 lead. Vinny Curto added the other score in the third on a second effort cutback. The conversion failed, but the Brownies held on to the 14-0 lead.

Ryan Wilson and Jamie Bulso stepped up for the defense, and Dan Walker, Don Hanna, and Jeremy Miner all made interceptions. Bob Johnson came up with some big hits, and Norm Gagne and Jamie Bulso added a QB sack each. Mike Sullivan made some nice runs for the Brownies, as well.

With a 5-2 record, the JV'ers are confident about next week's game versus the Chicopee Comp Colts.

FRESHMAN BOYS' SOCCER

The freshman boys' soccer team finished off their incredible season by going 3-0 this week, putting their final record at 15-3, including a season-ending winning streak of nine games. Coach O'Quinn's team scored 43 goals this season, only allowing 12.

Against Minnechaug, Agawam won 2-0. Danny Balboni scored on a feed from Dave Gallerani, and Brett Adamczyk scored the other goal, assisted by Pete Bitzas. Andy Radwanski and Tim Faust had solid games at halfback, and Jamie Cincotta picked up the shutout in goal.

Agawam then beat Enfield 4-2, behind goal scorers Pete Bitzas, Dave Thomas, and Dave Federico. Brian Machos and Thomas picked up assists. After the game, the team feasted at Old Country Buffet, and according to Coach O'Quinn, "They didn't leave hungry!"

The team's purpose throughout the year has been, "Attack, execute, and finish," and they certainly did that at the OCB. In the Enfield game, Brett Adamczyk also scored on a pretty one-touch volley from Adam Blair. The team's attitude was summed up in that one game when Mike DeFilipi was injured while diving in front of a direct kick. This epitomized the team's ability to do whatever it had to do to win.

In their final game, the team shutout Westfield behind goals from Pete Bitzas and a pretty header from Dave Federico (on a nice pass from Bitzas). Jay Flood and Chris Trevethan guided the defense, and Sean Michel played well. Jamie Cincotta had another great game in goal. (Agawam recorded 12 shutouts this year.)

It was definitely a year to remember for the frosh, who are tomorrow's varsity stars. Congratulations to them on a well-deserved season of success.

JV BOYS' SOCCER

The JV boys' soccer team also finished off well, going 1-0-2 in their final week, which ultimately gave them a final record of 8-6-4.

Against Northampton, the Brownies got goals from Jeremy Cordona and Ryan Progulski, who really stepped up. Although they tied 2-2, they felt they should have won this one, but Northampton got a pair of fluke goals past goalie Lee Kunkler. Tony Alfano had a good game for the Brownie defense, and Bill Maroni played well.

The team also defeated Chicopee Comp this week, 2-0. Jay Malone had a good game in net, and the offense was led by Jake Blair, Kyle Gendron, and Nick Dion. It served as a matter of revenge, for the Colts beat the Brownies earlier this year, 2-1.

In the team's final game, Nick Dion scored late in the game to give the team a 1-1 tie versus Westfield. Jay Malone played well in net, and

AHS Football - Offense & Defense



MEMBERS OF THE OFFENSIVE UNIT for the Agawam High varsity football team. Back row - Coach Dean Vecchiarelli, Kevin Perrault, Jeff Blews, Jeff Harlin, Dom Pisano, and Phil McGeoghan. Front row - Bryan Menard, Jason DeGray, Rich Skowyra, Dan Pellegrino, Derek Parker, and Justin Casinghino. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MEMBERS OF THE DEFENSIVE UNIT for the Agawam High varsity football team. Back row - Assistant Coach Mike Birk, Jeff Harlin, Mike Perry, Phil McGeoghan, Dan Lancour, Tom Gage, and Assistant Coach Curtis Boyle. Front row - Chris Day, Bryan Menard, Darrell Malachowski, Derek Parker, B.J. Cortis, and Andrew Markowski. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Tony Alfano again stepped up for the defense. Kevin McKay, Steve Charest, and Jan Hanscom also had good games.

Coach Olson's team should be proud of their finish, and many players (such as Dion, Alfano, Malone, and Vincenzo Tirone) should make the step up to varsity next season.

JV GIRLS' SOCCER

The JV girls' soccer team didn't play this week, as their season ended last week against Longmeadow in a 1-0 victory, which gave the team a record over .500.

Many players shined for Coach Patterson's club this year, which turned it around after a sluggish start. Shannon Beaudry and Jen Quigley are two quality goaltenders who kept the team in many a game.

Kristine Modzelesky, Linda Roy, Julie Laflamme, and Nikki Lawson all had good seasons at halfback, and the defense was anchored by Vanessa Galluzzo and Kara Tierney.

The efforts of the JV girls' soccer team and their players give Coach Mary Murray a lot of interesting players to look at for next year's varsity club.

FRESHMAN GIRLS' SOCCER

The frosh finished a game under .500, but Coach Kunasek's club was very competitive throughout the entire season.

Franca Bonavita had a good year in goal, and the offensive exploits of Chris Campbell, Diane Abdala, and Jessica Montagna should be noted.

Cassie Andre, Nikita Reshamwala, and Kornella Moysis all turned in quality seasons. All

the girls improved as the season took shape, and the frosh also turned their season around after a rocky beginning.

Look for many of this year's frosh to make an impact at the JV level next year.

JV FIELD HOCKEY

Coach Poulus' club had a pretty good season, as well finishing a few games under the .500 mark. Many of the players on this year's team should make the jump to the varsity next year.

Julie Case had a great year for the Brownies, and Jen Rendrick played very well in the goal. Jessica Przybyla, Jessica Couture, and Kate Rouvellat also made the plays for the JV'ers.

Kelli Kunkel and Allison Scherban had fine seasons, as did Maria Giordano. The team remained competitive throughout the season, and the skills they're honed this year should come in handy in their field hockey future.

FRESHMAN FIELD HOCKEY

Although the frosh didn't come away with many wins this year, they improved as the season wore on, and they should be proud of their efforts.

Coaches Goodfellow and Sands taught their troops a lot about the sport, and many of them should make the jump to JV. These include Kelly Cortis, who played great defense this year, and Kristen Chmielewski, the goalie. Heather Jensen and Christy Roberts were two others who helped the frosh this year.

Many of the players on this year's team will be fine varsity performers in the not-too-distant future for Coach Grieve.

Tri-Parish Bowlers In Good Form At Oct. 30th Match

Members of the Tri-Parish Bowling League were in a great mood on Monday evening, October 30th, the night before Halloween. And the action on the lanes of the Agawam Bowl continues to heat in Round One.

First place St. Louis (20½ wins) met an improving St. Anselm team (last place, 10½ wins) and received quite a battle.

St. Lou winners were leadoff AUDREY PHILLIPS (261) and second roller KIM LACROIX (261). But then St. A's really came on as Captain "Luscious" LOU MULDER (374) and YVONNE CHARTIER (336) sizzled the lanes to vault St. A's into the winner's circle. Yvonne crowned St. Lou Captain Glen Adams (308), who was shocked at Yvonne's hot rolling. Adams is the leader in Men's AA at 107.3, while Yvonne is second in Women's AA at 101.5.

"Luscious" Lou is second in the Open Division at 106.14 and appears to be back on the beam. For St. Lou, Audrey Phillips is the leader in Women's C at 86.5 and Kim Lacroix is the leader in Women's B at 93.4.

In the next match, fifth place St. Mary (13 wins) hooked up with sixth place Georgetown (13 wins). For St. Mary's, there were three winners - RITA SCOTT (249), VENETTA SNYDER (268), and third roller FRANKIE CERPOVICZ (308). The only G-Town winner was famous Captain DEBBIE POIRIER, an easy 337-288 winner over St. Mary's anchorman JOHN LONCRINI. Debbie's average climbed to 104.6, good for third in the Open Class. Mr. Loncrini is fourth in Men's AA at 98.9.

For St. Mary's, Rita Scott is fourth in Unclassified at 81.7; Venetta Snyder is sixth in Women's A at 90.1; and Frankie C. is the leader in Men's A at 99.5.

Second place Boston College (16½ wins) played a close but rather lackluster match vs. sinking Fordham (11½ wins-ninth place). BC winners were leadoff DAVE ALDRICH (241) and LARRY FORTIER (271). Fordham winners were CORI NAPOLITAN (310) and Captain "Jollie" OLLIE MULDER (293). "Jollie" Ollie was way off on this night as he leads the league with a 112.13 average. He did defeat an equally comatose "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK (282, third in Men's AA at 100.5).

For BC, Dave Aldrich is first in Men's C at 87.2 and Larry Fortier is second in Men's A at 95.0. (Larry defeated TERRY CERPOVICZ this week by two pins.) Cori Napolitan moved up to third in Women's A at 93.5.

In the next match, fourth place Catholic University (14½ wins) faced eighth place Notre Dame (12 wins). And it was a clean sweep for CU. Winners were leadoff PAM BERGIN (273), MARY THOMAS (284), TOM "Not Tony" CURTIS (324), and substitute ED CERANI (324). Ed soundly thrashed ND Captain FLO ROCHFORD, the new queen of women's rolling at 109.3 (first in Women's AA and second overall in the league).

"Not Tony" Curtis is second in Men's AA at 104.11 as he continues to move up the ladder, and Mary Thomas is the leader in Women's A at 98.8.

In the final match of the night, third place Holy Cross (15½ wins) faced seventh place St. Michael's (13 wins) in another one of those ho-hum affairs.

HC winners were MARSHA DOBIE (263) and JOHN MLINEK (298). St. Mike's winners were MAYBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN (266) and Captain JEAN BUONICONTI, a 290-264 winner over SUE GRIFFIN. Jean is fourth in Women's AA at 91.8 while Sue is at 98.3 in the same group. "Miss Consistent" Coughlin is second in Women's A at 94.14. She would just love to crack the 100.0 barrier this year. Marsha Dobie is second in Women's C at 84.7 while Mr. Mlinek is first in Men's B at 99.15.

Agawam Park & Rec. Men's Volleyball (Standings As Of 10/30/95)

TEAM	RECORD	TEAM PTS.
Spartans	27-5	80
EZ Riders	22-10	61
Olympic Fasteners	9-23	27
Lightning Spike	6-26	24

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ADVERTISER NEWS

Agawam Senior Warriors Stay Undefeated On Gridiron By Blanking West Side

On Sunday, October 29th, the Agawam Senior Warriors took on arch rival West Springfield in a rematch of the early season contest that the Warriors won 8-0.

The Warriors came in at 7-0 having clinched the championship the previous week. West Side was 5-1-1. The game was a hard fought contest that saw some great hitting on both sides. Give West Side credit. They prepared well and handled everything the Warriors threw at them. They deserved their 9-0 victory.

Although the Warriors moved the ball, they committed five turnovers and were never able to fully recover. Early in the first half, a turnover gave West Side possession at Agawam's 19. Five plays later, West Side scored and failed on the conversion. It was 6-0, West Side. A few minutes later, West Side had possession inside the Agawam 25 after the Warrior offense failed to move the ball. To their credit, the Warrior 'D' held and West Side had to settle for a field goal. The half ended with West Side on top, 9-0.

In the second half, the Warriors moved the ball deep into the visitor's territory but were stopped on a turnover. Two more times, Agawam tried to penetrate the West Side defense, but was stopped on downs. The Warrior defense made a nice

goal line stand and blocked the field goal attempt, but despite chances, the Warrior offense did not make the big play when they needed to.

Despite the loss, a 7-1 record and sole possession of first place is a great accomplishment. This was the first Agawam championship since 1990.

The Warriors graduate some good players into the high school. Jerry Graves was one of the top linemen in the league and Russ Smith was outstanding at linebacker. Mike Martin did a good job at QB after being pressed into service during the second game. Vin Buoniconti had five interceptions at cornerback. Alex Almquist had a good season rushing and kicking.

Shawn Biebel ran well from tailback and had some key receptions out of the backfield. Jason Daigneau played well on offense and defense. Scott Harlin at end and Kevin Grealis at linebacker also played well. Mike Grant, Kevin Rivers, Shawn Gloster, Mike Blevins, Ed Torres, Eric Pederson, and Isidro Aguinaga turned in fine seasons on the line. Jason Rheume, Dennis Lip-tak, and Matt Poirer played well on special teams.

Everything considered, it was a great season. Agawam should be proud of the work and dedication of the players. Congratulations on your championship season.

Agawam Youth Football Junior Squad Warriors Defeated By West Side

The Agawam Junior Warriors were host to the West Springfield Wolverines on Sunday, October 29th, at Phelps Field. The juniors lost the season finale by a score of 20-0. The juniors finished the year with a league record of three wins and five losses.

The Warriors dominated the first quarter of action, but West Springfield scored once in each of the last three quarters. The Agawam team generated a season-low 35 yards of offense, while West Springfield turned 184 rushing and passing yards.

John Slachetka was the leading rusher with 19 yards, followed by Ryan Lottermoser, Tim Sullivan, Scott Graves, and Dan Richards.

Billy Menard led the defense with six tackles, followed by Mike Locke, Ryan Lottermoser, Brian Pederson, Jason Clement, Sean Burke, Mike Piccin, Matt Shea, Jeff Zucco, and John Slachetka. Matt Shea made a key defensive play when he recovered a West Side fumble in the first period.

A special thanks goes to head coach Kevin Gaffney and his assistants Gerry Burke, Bob Lottermoser, and Bob Morretti for all of their hard work and dedication. Since August 1st, the football coaching staff has spent five or six days a week instructing the players and making the youth program a huge success.

Spartans Volleyball Looking Good

The Spartans volleyball team is a mix of players. Three of the men have played together both indoors and outdoors. Mark Langevin and Mark Thomas played in the Agawam Park and Recreation League a few years ago.

From there, they played outdoor sand volleyball in Springfield and Westfield. Mark Thomas has proved to be the go-to man for the spike, block, and dig. He is deep with skills. Dennis St. Laurent came in from the Springfield Turners Club on Garden Street and also played beach volleyball in Springfield. His skills as a setter and middle hitter are tough to match.

Bob Walters played indoor volleyball at the Holyoke YMCA and has proven ability at the outside hitter position as well as defense. Mike McCormick is a very elusive skilled setter and has a unique hitting style that keeps the opponent always guessing.

Greg Foulk was a recruit from outdoor volleyball and has great hands at inside blocking and hitting. Greg has also given the team some great serves when needed. All the teams look better so far this season and future participation in the volleyball program is encouraged.

Only by listening, practicing, and playing can you increase your skill level.

Good luck to all the teams.

Riverside Park Speedway Ends 1995 Season With Oct. 28th Enduro

The Sunday evening events at Riverside Park Speedway in Agawam, Massachusetts, draw record sell-out crowds. This is due to the fact that this unique variety of amateur, enduro-style events (combined with seven divisions of "real" competitive racing) makes the "Marathon Madness" events very popular.

On Saturday, October 28th—the final event of the 1995 season at the quarter-mile facility—three competitors in this line-level form of racing were crowned 1995 Riverside Speedway Champions in the following divisions: Riverside Super Stocks, Mini Stocks, and Riverside's own Truck Division.

Based on a series of 12 events, each division received points like the NASCAR point series on Saturdays. In the Super Stock division, it was 92 point victory for three-time winner Mark LaJole.

Mark showed consistent finishes early in the season, as the Norwalk, Connecticut driver kept building to win the title. Craig Collins (after an early-season disqualification) came back with four top-five finishes to end up second in the points; the Vernon, Connecticut resident earned 408 points.

Third was the most consistent of the veteran drivers—Bert Richardson with 392. (Riverside's Sunday events say Bert led more laps than anyone else.) Fourth was Mike Chaves (one of the fan favorites), who was just two points behind Richardson at 390; Mike just never gave up after a season of mechanical problems.

Jonathan Yourga had a roller-coaster season of up and down success. After losing a car on the back stretch, he returned one week later to victory lane with a new car. Bad luck kept the college student from a higher point tally of 382.

Last year's Super Stock big winner John Provencher was sixth at 358, followed by Keith DeSantis (350), Shane Peele (348), Mike Tani (316),

and Jose Rodriguez (310). Finishing 11th through 15th were Terry Page, Dean Luginbuhl, Scott Garity, Rick Charette, and Mark Freniere.

Sunday racing also crowned its 1995 Riverside Champion in the Mini Stock division. The class was dominated by Tom Gavine of Stafford, CT, and Ron Barnes of Oakham, MA.

Gavine won six events with his Volkswagen Scirocco to take the Mini Stock title at 536 points. Ron Barnes finished second with 508 points, and Sylvia Crunden (the sophomore) came in third with 412 points.

The Mini Stock class will return in 1996 with the same basic format.

For five years, Riverside has been running a truck division, with some trucks resembling the NASCAR Super Truck Series. A female Champion, Nancy Muni, was crowned with 428 points. She drove her Dodge Ram to several top finishes before going to a Chevrolet.

Second in this class went to Dave Capriati, followed by Bob Bellinger in third place.

All of the aforementioned divisions will be back in 1996 for marathon and special events. The first Sunday race is scheduled for May 26, 1996. This event will feature a full-size enduro, a four-cylinder enduro, a demolition, Super Stocks, Strictly Stocks, Mini Stocks, Pro 4 Modifieds, half-ton trucks, and the Jimmy Fund-racing police officers.

Rules and 1996 regulations will be available by December 1st for all race divisions. Write Riverside Park Speedway, P.O. Box 307, Agawam, MA 01001 (attn.: Mary).

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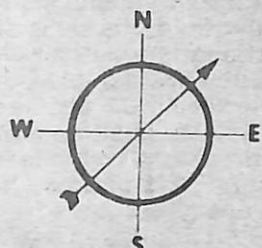
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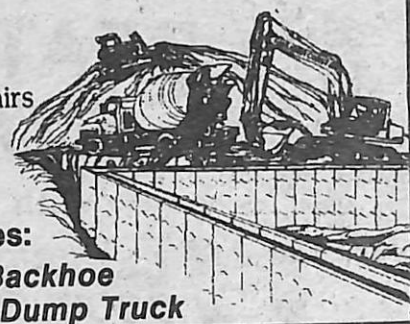
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FAMILY DAY CARE: Immediate openings, quiet cul-de-sac, Phelps and Robinson districts. Outdoor activities in large yard, daily reading, and indoor playtime. References available upon request. License number 171137. Linda, 789-0881.

HANDY PERSON: Painting, wallpapering, wallpaper removal, installation of door knobs, locks, window shades, curtain rods, telephone jacks ... and the list goes on. Call Joe Gazar for free estimate, 786-4697.

NEED HELP WITH YOUR COMPUTER: ONE-on-ONE Computing. Personal computer tutor. Very affordable. House calls. Answers to all your computer questions. 786-1892.

WANTED

WANTED: Heavy truck One-ton transmission jack and roll under floor jacks. Call 789-1263; ask for Bill or Tom.

HELP WANTED: 6 am to 11 am, Part-time, Monday through Friday, mopping and polishing floors. Start \$7 hr. 786-7856.

HAIRDRESSER WANTED: FT-PT. Experience a must. Clientele preferred. Competitive commission, paid vacation. Ongoing education. Call for interview—La Mirage, 789-4220.

WANTED: Looking for a mature person to run my Family Day Care from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday. Call 786-3371 in Feeding Hills, Mass.

WANTED—RESTAURANT HELP: The following positions are available—waitstaff, kitchen help, counterperson. PT/FT weekdays & nights. Able to work weekends. Experience a plus. Apply in person. Frankie's Firehouse Restaurant, 25 Palomba Dr., Enfield.

WANTED: Teacher looking for P/T babysitter 3 days a week for 2 toddlers in my home. Non-smoker; references. Call after 6 p.m. 786-5218.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: 1 BR. APT., Spfld. St., F.H. Individual 2nd fl. unit. Quiet, privacy. \$450/mo. Call 786-4400 days, Mon.-Thurs., 8-5.

FOR RENT: Office space. Location Enfield. Plenty of parking. Easy access. Utilities included. 400 sq. ft. Only \$320 a month. For info. call (203) 741-2259; ask for JR.

FOR RENT: Two-bedroom condo. Nice, quiet neighborhood. Great for couple. Nice basement, 1½ baths. In Agawam. \$650 without utilities. Call 786-3980.

PERSONAL

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. Sacred Heart, help of the hopeless, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank-you St. Jude for granting my petition.

RS

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

(never known to fail)
O Most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me here you are my mother. O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you.

M.J.M.

ST. JUDE'S NOVENA

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us.

Say this prayer nine times a day. By the eighth day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.

Thank you St. Jude for granting my petition.

MJD

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved, adored, glorified, and preserved now and forever.

Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude worker of miracles pray for us. St. Jude help of the hopeless pray for us.

Say this prayer nine times a day. By the eighth day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Thank-you St. Jude for granting my petition.

S.S.

PRAY 9 HAIL MARYS FOR 9 DAYS

Request 3 wishes, 1 business & 2 impossible. On the 9th day publish this article and your wishes will be answered, even if you don't believe.

S.S.

TAG SALE

TAG SALE: Shop for Xmas—new and used: construction & cabinet tools, bldg. materials, games, office & house furniture, housewares, drafting table, much more. 629 Main Street, Agawam, Nov. 3 & 4, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

FOR SALE

RUMMAGE AND BOOK SALE: Temple Beth El, 979 Dickinson St., Springfield. November 7th, 10 AM to 7 PM, & November 8th, 9 AM to 3 PM. Hundreds of items and books! Special on Wed., November 8th—\$3.00 per bag.

FOR SALE: 280 Z, 1975. Parts, new injectors, engine/interior good condition. Best offer. 786-3433 after 7:00 p.m.

FOR SALE: Screened loam. \$13.50 yd., free deliver Southwick-Westfield area. On-site screening of your loam available. Faulkner Construction, 569-0724 or 357-6470.

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• **Mass Millions**

